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ONE YEAR FOR $1.00

VOL. 13 M'KINNEY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1896. NO. 48

- J. P. DOWELL -

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THE NEW YEAR.

The house is hushed; a stillness great
Falls on those waiting there,
A moment when the soul is thrilled
By wondrous quiet rare.
'Tis over; let glad voices cry;
This is a glorious morn.
Another soul has come to earth—
A little child is born.

Amid the flowers there is peace,
For, see, that lily there
Holds the attention of the rest—
That plant so wondrous fair.
A moment, and the spell is past;
A perfume of delight
Greets the new flower soul just born—
A lily bursts to sight.

The midnight hush intensified
Hangs o'er the earth tonight,
As if awaiting some great change;
The world is still and white.
'Tis come! The earth is born again;
The old must disappear.
Hail to the new! A thousand tongues
Greet gayly the New Year.

—Selected.

SHOCKY WON THE DAY

The sun shone, but a raw, nipping wind blew in from the river. There was no sign of thaw, save upon the southerly edges of the deep ruts in the street before the courthouse. The door of it, too, was deserted, albeit it was the first Monday in January, with sheriff's sales to come off, in which a large part of the county felt the liveliest interest.

The eager onlookers had lounged inside. Now they stood in gossiping groups about the big, redhot stove. It wanted still half an hour of 12, the time set for sales to begin. Until the hour had struck it was unlikely that those most intimately concerned would show their faces; so there was no restraint in the speech that ran about the room.

"Hit's er plumb shame, neither mo' ner less. I'd say that ef I wuz goin to be shot for it," a tall, thin bearded man said for the third time, giving the stove door a kick as he spoke.

"I dunno erbout that," returned his neighbor meditatively. He was round to unctuousness, with a big hook nose standing out over a huge double chin. "Seems ter me," he went on, "mo' like er jedgment. Ye cain't deny ef Easton Clark had a' paid's much 'tention ter his farm as he done ter that thar fiddle he'd not 'a' been yhar he is terday."

"You're right, Brother Bemish. He wouldn't now, shore," said a third, a lank, sour visaged man with a tract in his hand and a pair of open saddlebags flung across his arm. "As you say, hit's er clear case o' jedgment. To think o' Easton Clark, brung up as he wuz in the nurture an admonition o' the Lord, fiddlin those 50 years fer every dance in ten miles round an not fer no money neither—jes fer pyore love o'-the sound!"

"H-m-m! I reckon ye think it wouldn't a' been no sin ef Majer Clark had took money fer it an give the money ter help e an yer tracts, Brother Barker," said tall young fellow who stood a little aside with his hands in his pockets, his hat tipped back on his head, his springy, well booted feet set ostentatiously in the first dancing position.

A minute Brother Barker eyed him in frowning silence, then broke out in his cracked, high keyed pulpit voice:

"Robert Lumpkin, ye speak as one not havin understandin, one yit in the gall o' bitterness, the bonds o' iniquity—yit he treuth is the treuth—it has made me mad ter see Easton Clark a-lettin ye singers dance without payin the fiddler when he could jest as easy gat $3 a night to help spread abroad the pyore gawspil."

"Well, I'm shore the old majer wuz liberal ernough. So long as he had money to give it a year ter every church in hearin of 'im, though he didn't belong ter none of 'em," young Lumpkin said with spirit.

Before the minister could reply the tall man who had spoken first broke in: "W'l, I'm so'ry fer the majer, though maybe it's his own fault. Don't seem like no man in his sensis would 'a' done whut he did—borrowed $5,000 on morgidge ter put inter er patent fer makin soap outen nothin—but the feller that got hit—that thar Cowlick of Georgy—he wuz er slick one ter talk, I tell ye. He took the majer in slick as er gouge. Majer's so honest hisself he never dreampt ernother man that spoke fair an wuz pretty behaved could be er liar an er cheat."

"Ye better say he's such er gambler he wuz willin ter take all sorts er chances. It wuz jes' that—nothin mo'. Didn't he never tell ye how he come by Marg'ret—that thar fiddle that he talks to, same 's it wuz er human critter?" Brother Barker said acridly, his eyes squinting toward Brother Bemish, who nodded approval in such fashion as to set all his big person shaking.

"No, I never quite got the straight of it. Tell us how it was, won't ye?" Lumpkin asked, drumming on the wall as he spoke. Brother Bemish nodded in a satisfied way and began in his heaviest drone:

"I've heard Easton tell the tale a-many a time. Ye know, his grand'sir raised him, same as he's raised 'Lizabeth. Seems like the Clark stock has ter skip every other gineration. When Easton come ter be 20, the ole man he give 'im all the crap they'd made that year on the plantation an built him er flatboat ter carry hit down ter Orleans a-tradin. As ter whut Easton done with it nobody didn't never rightly know. He tells that he got good money outen the stuff. Then he got ter thinkin he wa'n't never likely ter be in that town no mo' in his lifetime, so he sot in ter see 's much of it as he could. Ye may jedge that cost like smoke. 'Twa'n't so mighty long befo' he found he had jest er hundred dollars lef' in his pocket an told hisself he'd better walk home, so as ter have that much ter show his grun'sir.

"As luck would have it, though, that very night he stepped inside one er them gamblin houses, an thar he saw er little yaller old Frenchman a-playin roulette like he wuz possessed. Every time he laid on the black an fer erwhile he jes' raked in the money. But his luck couldn't last. Soon he'd lost all he'd won an all he had besides. Then he jumps up like er crazy man an says ter Easton that had been standin behind whar he sot: 'Sir, ye look pitiful an honest. Lend me now, I do beg of ye, $100. I make ye all sure of it two, three times ovair. Den, when I have it, why, I break dis bank, dat else will ruin me.'

"Well, Easton he tried ter reason with the man an offered ter give him $50 of he'd promise ter quit playin, but that wuz no go, an the upshot of it all wuz that he went with the French feller ter 'is rooms—they wuz close by—an thar he let 'im have the $100, takin Marg'ret fer security. He didn't want no security, but the other would have it that a-way. It was right pitiful, though, Easton said, ter see him hug an kiss the fiddle an call it his child. He swore ter it he didn't mean ter part with it an asked its pardon fer whut he'd had ter do. He would have hit back again, shore's he lived, fer he loved it more'n all the world besides. Then he begged Easton ter go back with him an carry the fiddle, so as ter bring him luck.

"Easton he went, an shore 'nough the Frenchman won the first turn. As the second begun it looked like his eyes wuz glued ter the ball. Toward the last it begun ter roll slow, so slow ye jest har'ly see it move. Seemed like it wanted ter stop on his color an couldn't somehow manage ter do it. He wuz bettin still on the black. When the ball crope over on hit so slow an easy ye saw it couldn't git off, he flung up his hands an fell back, dead as er door nail. When the doctor come, he said the Frenchman's heart wuz weak, an the strain had been too much fer him.

"Then Easton he took whut the feller had won an whut he'd borryed o' him an had him buried decent, er thar didn't 'pear ter be nobody else ter see whut become o' him. When that wuz done, he come trompin home with the fiddle under his arm, the only mortal thing he had ter show er all he'd took erway."

"Po' ole feller! He woon't have that much, eben, after terday," the thin bearded man said, winking his eyes hard. Then, leaning across to the sheriff: "Say, Bixby, give us one mo' look at Marg'ret, woon't ye? She's er fiddle, an no mistake. I'd know the sound o' her ef she wuz playin with 20 others. 'Tain't so loud, but meller as harvest apples, an carries so ye kin hear it at the yard gate mighty nigh as well as ye kin on the peazzo. I useter always could tell when I rode past thar how things wuz goin with the majer by the way he played. Ef he wuz feelin jolly, had sold his terbacker fer ernough ter set him squar with the warehouse an the sto'keepin, Lord, how he did rattle off 'The Arkansaw Traveler' an 'Tom Meriweather,' an 'Henry Phillips' an 'Black Satin,' an sech like tunes. But ef he wuz bestot over things, hadn't paid taxes, er the corn wuz out an no money ter buy mo', 'er may be he'd seen 'Lizabeth turnin an patchin her ole frocks, that wuz jes' fit fer the raghag—why, then, I tell ye, Marg'ret jes' wailed out 'Billy in the Low Gronnds' er some er them ole time camp meetin tunes that sounds like er lost child cryin fer its mammy.

"Many times this summer I've rid by thar at er gallop, jest ter keep frum hearin the ole gal. Majer's got er white head, but I tell ye he keeps er mighty limber elbow yit. I lay he's got mo' satisfaction out er the hundred dollars he give fer Marg'ret than out er any other money that ever he spent. That's what makes me wonder so that ever he'd give 'Bige Potter a lien on her. I'd 'a' thought he'd 'most as soon give him one on 'Lizabeth."

"'Bige thought hit 'mounted ter 'bout the same—that's why he wuz so keen after it, I reckon," said a lounging fellow in a suit of patched jeans who had hitherto been silent. He had keen, small eyes set under a thatch of grizzled hair and skin tanned almost to the brownness of his garments.

"Ye see, I wuz thar when all this yere wuz a-happenin," he went on. "At the majer's, I mean, thar with that feller frum up no'th, that come down yere a-bird huntin, an got me ter sorter show him round. We boarded at the majer's—mighty good board, too, it wuz. 'Lizabeth's er number one housekeeper, an stirrin—oh, my, ef she jes' could 'a' happened ter 'a' been born a boy, well, thar wouldn't be no talk er this yere sale terday. She'd work out the debt, she would, an never bat her eye."

"She wouldn't git the chance. 'Bige Potter's closer'n the bark to er tree. But go on with yer tale, Shock. It was gittin mighty interestin!" Bob Lumpkin interrupted. Shocky Waters, the hunter, eyed him keenly for half a minute, then went on:

"As I wuz tellin when that thar oaf put in his mouth, I seen an heard the whole thing. One day in November that thar no'the'n feller—Rayne his name is—lost er letter he had writ ter somebody back whar he come frum, an he wuz put out over hit er sight. So I let in ter huntin it up. 'Twuz long toward 4 o'clock—we'd been out all day—an I traipsed out through the orchard, whar we went that mornin as we started. An who should I stumble on out thar but 'Lizabeth, a-getherin the last er the winter apples, an 'Bige Potter a-settin on his hawse an lookin at her like he'd give his ears ter eat her up. As I come up I heared him say:

"'Miss 'Lizabeth, my mind is made up ter git married 'fore this time next year. Tell me, now, whut do ye think o' my chances?'

"'Oh,' ses 'Lizabeth, colorin up, but settin her teeth tergether, 'I reckon you can do it, ef you'll go fur ernough 'way frum home. Thar's women a-plenty that would marry Old Scratch hisself if he asked 'em fer the sake of havin "Mrs." on their tombstones.'

"His face got pokeberry red, but 'fore he could open his mouth I come through the high weeds, an ses I: 'Hello, 'Bige! I'll trouble ye fer that thar letter I see a-stickin out o' yer side pocket. I've searched an searched fer it, tell I'm nih about hip shotten.'

"Thet was pyore bluff. I hadn't no reason in the wurld ter think he had whut I wanted. But it wurked. He gimme the dockyment with no two words an rid off, sayin he must go find the majer.

"That night the ole man tole me how 'Bige had come er dingdongin at him 'bout intrus' money an wouldn't let him erlone tell he'd give him this yere lien on Marg'ret."

"Wonder of 'Bige thinks she's wuth any part of it, $300? Reckon he's safe, though. The land oughter fetch considerable more'n the debt. But I dunno, neither. Money's skase, an there ain't nobody much likely ter want sech er big place," the thin bearded man said meditatively, twiddling his thumbs. Shocky Waters glared at him through narrow lids, then said darkly:

"Gentlemen, hear my racket, now while ye've got time. 'Bige Potter knows he cain't have 'Lizabeth. He thinks, though, he'll take his spite out gittin Marg'ret. Now, there's some on us here wouldn't mind seein him fooled. When the sale begins, he'll bid lively—no doubt o' that in the world. Now whutever he cries, ye all help me ter cry ergainst him. Never mind ef it's in the thousands—raise him. I know whut I'm doin an ye all know me. Shocky Waters ain't never yit left ernother feller the bag ter hold."

"That ye ain't, Shocky. I'll stan' by ye, no matter whar she goes," Bob Lumpkin said heartily.

"So'll I," said the thin bearded man. The Rev. Mr. Barker dropped his saddlebags, groaning aloud. Brother Bemish gave a sly chuckle, saying aside to the sheriff:

"Bixby, 'pears like they wanter make mo' work fer ye."

"Sh! Thar they come!" the officer said, unlocking the fiddle case and thrusting his hand inside. He meant the touch to be a endless, but in some fashion it drew forth a sorrowful muffled resonance indescribably soft and sweet.

At the sound Major Clark tottered and caught heavily at Elizabeth's arm. He was a hale old man, with apple cheeks and a firm step. Until the last few months he had kept the untroubled gaze of childhood. Now there was a suggestion of rheum in the eye corners, besides new, tense lines all around the mouth. He stopped too. Elizabeth looked the taller of the pair. She was a tall girl anyway, with square shoulders, a long neck and small hands, thoroughbred in line despite the roughening of hard work. She had small, proud stepping feet, too, and carried her head high. Dark brown eyes looked at you from under straight, level brows. Her skin was rich olive, stained with the most vital red at the cheeks and lips.

Even the huddle of shawls she wore could not wholly mask the litheness of her figure. As she came through the door each man there involuntarily bared his head. Shocky Waters made haste to set a chair for the major. Bob Lumpkin fetched another for Elizabeth. Bixby, the sheriff, shrank out of sight like one suddenly discovered doing an ill deed.

Elizabeth's head bent lightly in greeting, then she looked at the clock. It lacked a minute of 12. Without hesitation she stepped forward, took the fiddle from its case and laid it within her grandfather's hands.

He took it tenderly and laid his cheek to it, whispering: "Marg'ret, Marg'ret, how could I put ye in pawn! Ye that I named for my Marg'ret, dead and gone. I wish I had died first. Now ye must be sold at 12 o'clock—the laws says it. I done it myself, Marg'ret. I ain't got no right even ter break ye up and save ye from that man. Goodby, my girl, goodby! I—I won't last long without ye."

'Lizabeth put his elbow along heard what he said. A touch made her turn to face 'Bige Potter, lean, oily, smartly clothed, smiling at her a cadaverous triumph.

"If you had any feelin for anybody but yourself, you'd put a stop to this," he said under his breath, nodding toward the old man.

'Lizabeth's lip curled.

"I am all you have left him. Don't try to take that away, too," she said in his own key. He wheeled sharply about, gnawing his under lip. The clock was striking. The sheriff had laid hands on Marg'ret and was crying, with a wild attempt at jocularity: "Gentlemen, ladies, niggers and the rest of mankind, here's a fiddle—a fine fiddle—a reg'lar Jim Crack Corn fiddle—that ll come mighty near ter playin itself. How much for it? Bid lively, now! Warranted not ter wear, tear, rip, ravel, run down at the heel, ner cut in the eye! How much do I hear? Five dollars? Ten? Oh, shucks! Gentlemen, no time fer foolin. Bid somethin respectable. This vere instrument cost er hundred dollars, remember! Bid for old acquaintance sake. The last one o' ye has danced ter her music! Ask yo' pardon, Brother Barker, I forgot you wuz here. Who bids? Who bids? Who bids? Ten, ten; now gimme the twenty! Twenty-five do I hear? Thanky, Shocky. That's sort o' like it."

"A hundred here! No use in makin two bites of a cherry," 'Bige Potter said shortly.

"Make it two hundred," said Shocky.

"Three hundred," called Potter.

"Five hundred even," Bob Lumpkin shouted, setting his hat so far back that it tipped off and fell. But nobody laughed at the diverting spectacle, for Potter was shouting, his face apoplectic. "A thousand! A thousand!"

"Two thousand," sang out the thin bearded man. Shocky had just whispered in his ear.

"Make it three!" Potter shouted furiously.

"Make it four!" retorted Shocky. Bob Lumpkin began the double shuffle as some slight expression of his joy.

"Five thousand! My debt, an—an—intrus'?" Potter cried in white rage.

"No good. Six won't git ye, Marg'ret," Shocky half chanted, half cheered, hopping from one foot to the other. The sheriff stared wildly about. The bidders, it seemed to him, had surely lost their minds. He became more than ever certain of it when 'Bige Potter shouted: "Seven thousand! I must—I will have that fiddle!"

"Ye can't have her, 'Bigy man! Here's eight thousand over here," Shocky said tantalizingly.

Potter choked and gasped, "Eight thousand five hundred!"

"Nine!" shouted Bob Lumpkin, while the others held their breath. All eyes turned on Potter. Once, twice, thrice, he opened his lips, closed them with no sound and fell sullenly back as the sheriff cried:

"Nine thousand! Goin at $9,000! Nine thousand once! Twice! Three times—an out. Sold to Bob Lumpkin's bid! Whar the money's ter come from maybe the Lord knows. I don't, for certain."

"Don't ye be oneasy over that, Mr. Sheriff. I'm here; don't ye fergit that," Shocky called out as Potter slunk away. "Money talks, most as prutty as Marg'ret here. I've got the cash fer ye. So gimme the old gal. Jes' one minnit, majer; then she's your'n ter have an ter hold—witness these presents."

Major Clark stood up very straight. Elizabeth was sobbing on his shoulder. She had faced ruin with a laugh. Rescue broke down all her fine courage. The old gentleman lifted his hand and asked in a voice whose tremor he tried in vain to mask: "Shocky, what is all this about? What does it mean? I—I—is it possible that I have got back my land?"

"Yes, majer; yer fiddle, too, bless God!" Shocky said, and as he spoke all heads reverently bowed. "Now, all on ye, looky thar," holding the fiddle to the light. "See them thar letters inside o' Marg'ret—'Fecit Stradivarius. Cremona,' they say. I don't know whut they means; they're all er foring tongue ter me. But this much I dunno—Mr. Rayne took notice on 'em while he wuz here last fall an writ back ter one o' his chums that he'd found er fiddle down in these rooral precincts that wuz wuth er mint o' money. 'Twus that letter he lost an I found 'fore hit wuz sent. Shouldn't be s'prised ef somebody else read hit while hit wuz lost.

"Anyway, he told me he'd try ter buy Marg'ret, only it 'peared ter him er sinful shame ter think er partin her an the majer. So, when I come ter find out how things wuz goin—well! Mr. Rayne soon knowed as much as me. The upshot of it is whut ye jes' now seen. 'Bige Potter ain't got Marg'ret, neither 'Lizabeth, an the majer is free ter fiddle fer us on his own sweet fiddle jes' as long as he lives."

A great shout went up from the listeners. Elizabeth held out both hands to Shocky, saying through her tears:

"I could kiss you, Shocky, but I know you'd rather I did not do it."

"No; that ain't my line," Shocky admitted frankly. "All the same, 'Lizabeth, I'm feelin first rate. Las' fall ye seen fit ter cast er mighty heap er pies an things on the waters o' my appetite. Now I sorter feel like some on 'em is coming back ter ye befo' ee many days."—New York Recorder.

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Julian Hawthorne.

Julian Hawthorne is the son of Nathaniel Hawthorne. He was born in 1846, but he does not show his 50 years. When he was a boy of 7, some lady's remark on the fact that he was "weak chested" stung him, and he determined to make that comment impossible in the future. How well he succeeded is evidenced by the fact that while he was in college his chest measure was 48 inches, and it is well known that the late John C. Heenan, the pugilist, advised the young man to enter the prize ring.

THE PERSIAN NEW YEAR.

No Beggar Asks For Alms In Vain on the 21st of March.

There is a day in the Persian calendar of which men, women and children, one and all, of this phlegmatic race bestir themselves and roam about in frenzied glee. That day is the New Year's day, according to our chronology the 21st of March. In round, hollow boats which look like a turban turned upside down they sail over the emerald waters of the Euphrates, and in the center of the stream they dip the water with which they bespatter afterward the walls of their houses, gardens and trees to keep at bay the evil spirit. The men fall upon each other's necks, kiss and cross each other and vow eternal brotherly love. No beggar, and their number is legion, asks in vain for alms on this day. The ordinary Persian laborer and peddler, who does not mind if his hands and feet are dyed the color of the night on other days, takes a bath and has his hair cut, and if the sun's rays are more than ordinarily fierce he orders his head shaved clean of all hirsute ornament. Balancing himself on the ground by holding on to his toes, he delivers himself over to the hands of the Persian figaro, a tonsorial artist of no mean development. Several of these public barbers have become quite rich notwithstanding they perform their hardest labor on this great holiday. In the interior of Persia, beyond the bleak desert, is found on the banks of a deep river the post station of Pullydallack, the name of which is derived from a bridge that crosses the river at that point, the "barber" bridge, for it is the gift to his fellow men of a whilom barber, who became a nabob in the pursuit of his profession—the only barber, no doubt, who indulged in erecting bridges for other men to cross. But the Persian barbers are considered the best tonsorial artists in the orient.

Speaking of the peculiar boats in which the Persians navigate their river, they have retained that queer shape since time immemorial, for they were known in prehistoric ages. They are made of light straw wood, which has become hard as a rock through exposure to the briny waters and the atmosphere. All the cracks and interstices are filled up with a gumlike clay and dry reed grass, which makes them perfectly waterproof.—Selected.

Old Superstitions.

Among many other old superstitions associated with New Year's is a belief that if a lamp or candle be taken out of a house on that day some member of the family will die within a twelvemonth, while to throw out dirty water, ashes or anything whatever, no matter how worthless, is regarded as certain to bring ill luck during the whole of that year. If the first visitor to a dwelling on New Year's day is a female, and she is admitted, misfortune and misery are said to be sure to follow that household for the next 12 months, while it is also thought to bode serious evil to a lady if her first New Year's caller be a dark complexioned, dark haired man instead of one whose hair and skin are fair.—Exchange.

Saxon New Year's.

The wassail bowl was an invariable accompaniment of New Year's among the Saxons and ancient Germans. The name is derived from the Saxon wasshael, an expression equivalent to "to your health." The drinking of pledges on New Year's day was general, and pledging one's health is an expression significant of the treachery and bloodthirsty character of the times. When one rose to drink from the ceremonial cup used at a feast, he was obliged to hold it with both hands, on account of its size, and while he drank his next friend stood with him, a drawn sword in his hand, to prevent his being stabbed while drinking.—Exchange.

The Caliph's Diary.

The caliph Abdulrahman, who reigned in Cordova, toward the close of his long and prosperous career made an entry in his diary one New Year's day. "I have reigned 50 years, beloved by my friends, feared by my enemies, suspected by my allies. My reign has been one of peace and prosperity. I have had riches and fame and power. I have enjoyed all that heart could wish. I have counted the happy days experienced in all this time, and they number just 14."—St. Louis Globe-Democra

A Parisian New Year's Custom.

After the fall of the empire and the restoration of the Bourbons in Paris a fashion arose of giving bonbons as a New Year's present. The confectioners prepared for the New Year's trade, and it was estimated that on the two days before New Year's of 1822 a thousand tons of candies were sold in the confectioners' street in Paris.

The Happy New Year.

The chill air is crisp, for the frost king discloses
His tiny ice spears, which he hangs on the trees.
No fragrance of summer, no petals of roses,
To brush as we pass; we see only dead leaves.
Now, dear merry Christmas has swiftly departed.
A New Year stands scanning the ghosts of the past.
We gaze o'er his shoulders and feel heavy hearted
To think months and seasons are fading so fast.

See, whirled in mildair are white snowflakes descending!
Each flake seems a spirit dropped down from above,
As though for the New Year to earth they come, lending
A promise of purity, blessing and love.
The tall trumpet creeper, whose scarlet tinged flowers
Last summer made gay its beautiful dress,
Stood yesterday drooping and leafless for hours.
Now, snowclad, it gleams in renewed loveliness.

How they pile, how they gather, the snows in their whiteness,
Led onward by silence, who moves without sound!
Their feet shod in crystal and sparkling in brightness,
They drape frosted vesture o'er tree, bush and ground.
We thought with the summer all beauty was dying;
We thought with the old year all joy flown away.
But spirits of snow to our shorn world came flying,
And the New Year has blessings perhaps for each day.

Hark! Wild bells are ringing! Yes, joy bells are flinging
Out welcomes of glee to another New Year.
May each moment be crowded with laughter and singing,
And during its stay may no sorrow draw near.
Ring on, New Year bells! Let thy ringing mean gladness!
Ring all ills away, but ring love's warmth within!
Though the old year just died, and we saw it with sadness,
Yet happy may prove the New Year we begin!

—Christian Intelligencer.

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SYSTEMS OF CHRONOLOGY USED BY THE ANCIENTS.

Egyptians Dated Events by the Reigns of Kings, and the Norsemen Reckoned by Winters—The Jews Had Six Seasons. Chinese and Babylonian Astronomy.

The Egyptian year began with the rising of the star Sirius and consisted of 365 days. There were 12 months of 30 days each, and at the close of the year five days were intercalated. All reckoning was by this year. The festivals were celebrated by it, and as a consequence, like the Roman festivals of later times, circled around from one season to another on account of the omission from the calendar of the quarter day. Notwithstanding this omission the Egyptians seem to have known that the addition of a quarter of a day each year was necessary in order to keep a correct measurement of time, and their "sothiac cycle." This cycle was a period of 1,461 vague or 1,460 true years, and was called "sothiac" because its beginning was fixed at a date when the dog star, known by the Egyptians as Sothis, rose with the sun on the first of Thoth, which was the commencement of their year. This rising of Sirius and the sun on the first of Thoth took place in the years B. C. 2782 and B. C. 1322, and also in 138 A. D. The Egyptians knew that the last named year was the first of a sothiac cycle. The year B. C. 1322 was also probably known as such, but we have no knowledge whatever regarding B. C. 2782. The ancient Egyptians, therefore, appear to have been aware that for accuracy it was necessary to have 365¼ instead of 365 days in the solar year, but they do not seem to have realized that this extra quarter day was in excess, and provided for it as it is provided for in the Gregorian calendar.

The Egyptians seem to have had no system of chronology. They made use of no era, but dated events by the regnal years of their kings. Thus the astronomers would note an eclipse of the sun as taking place in the fourth year of Rameses II, which would be utterly unintelligible as regards to time to one of another country. This fallacious method resulted in an interminable chronological obscuration which the most astute researches of savants have not succeeded in unwinding.

The ancient northmen reckoned by winters, and the beginning of their year was probably dated from the 16th of October. The festival in honor of Thor was held in midwinter, about our Christmas time, and, in fact, was the origin of the Christian holiday merrymaking. We get the names of at least three, if not four, of our days of the week from the Norse gods of the Odin religion. Tuesday is from Tir, or Dissday, on which the offerings to fate were made and the courts of justice held; Wednesday is from Woden, or Odin, one of the Norse trinity; Thursday, or Thor's day, from Thor, the chief of the trinity, and Friday from Frigg, another of the minor deities of the trinity.

There is nothing of especial importance in the Jewish chronology except in so far as it pertains to Scriptural matters, and even then the only valuable knowledge we have in this regard is based on the Pentateuch. The only information the Jews possessed of astronomy was obtained from the Assyrians. Like the ancient Greeks and the modern Turks, they divided their year into 12 months of 29 and 30 days alternately, with an intercalary month every three and sometimes every two years, to amend inaccurate measurement. They had six seasons—seedtime, winter, cold season, harvest, summer and hot season. The Jews that returned to Palestine after the overthrow of the Jewish nation used the Macedonian era, which dated from 311 B. C. The Jews of today, like the Freemasons, claim to date their calendar from creation, which, they assert, was 3760 B. C.

It seems a very easy and natural thing for us to now use a year as a unit of time mensurement, but if one would but stop to think a moment he would readily see how difficult it must have been originally to have formed that unit with nothing but space upon which to operate. Even as late as 450 B. C. Herodotus referrd to a century as three generations, and formerly in nearly all countries the phrase five winters or three summers was used instead of the expression of so many years. In the early times the elapse of historical events was chronicled from central figures, as kings or great chieftains who had won renown. In Rome and Athens reference was made to a magistrate when an occurrence of that year was mentioned, and as these officers were elected annually the method was a very convenient one. In the same way Babylonian and Assyrian events were chronicled from the term of office of the limu much more frequently than from the reigns of the kings. Such systems, however, were necessarily very limited in their scope, and the want of a better earlier chronology has been felt in the study of authentic ancient history.

The great progress that was made in astronomy by China and Babylonia at the dawn of civilization opened the way for a better time measurement. Men's views were broadened, and the invention of eras was begun. The Chinese began a time computation that is undoubtedly prehistoric, for their records of the eclipses that have been observed show a chronology of at least 4,700 years' duration, and their historians assert that they had a year measurement similar to our Julian system fully 2,000 B. C.

The earliest authentic date that has been handed down to us was inscribed on the foundation stone of the temple to the sun god at Sippara by Naram-Sin, son of Sargon. This stone was exhumed by Nabonidus, who reigned over Babylon about 554 B. C., and it is asserted that Naram-Sin ruled 3,200 years previously. From these dates we learn that the chronology of Babylon began with the reign of Sargon I, king of Agade, 3800 B. C. From the best information we have the calendar came into use 2330 B. C. with a week of seven days and a year of 12 months, named after zodiacal signs. The year consisted of 360 days, which probably suggested the division of the circle into degrees. Astronomical chronology was divided into cycles of 60 years, 600 years, and the star, or 3,600 years. The "Observations of Bel," the great Babylonian work on astronomy and astrology, gave a record of eclipses of the sun and moon, conjunctions and phases of some of the planets, the time of the new year and many other scientific problems. Many of the calculations made in this ancient astronomy are of the utmost importance even in our day, and to it is due the era of Nabonassar, one of the most famous in the annals of chronology, the basis of all the computations of Ptolemy, and the dates in connection with Alexander and Aristotle. Since its epoch, Feb. 26, 747 B. C., it maintained its ground till after the commencement of the vulgar era.—Chicago Record.

A Blind Detective.

Shoppers in one of the big stores down town last bargain day curiously watched the movements of a blind woman at the dress goods counter. She was about 30 years old, her face showing great intelligence and refinement. She was richly dressed for the street, and a girl about 20 years old accompanied her.

The blind woman examined the fabrics placed before her by passing them through her hands. She depended upon her own sense of touch apparently, for she seldom spoke to her companion, and then only in answer to questions. She appeared to be quite critical, and before she made her selection the counter was piled high with patterns of all kinds.

After she had examined a large number of pieces she took up one of the first that had been shown her and decided to buy it.

When the clerk had measured it, she verified the length herself by measuring it with her outstretched arms. Seemingly satisfied that the piece contained as much as she had bargained for, she took a transfer ticket and went to the counter where trimmings are sold. There she selected the material with which to finish her dress, examining the laces and other delicate fabrics most critically.

After the blind woman had left the store the floor manager said her shopping was not an unusual thing. She was but one of the many blind customers who came into the store regularly. This woman, he said, was not only able to make the nicest discrimination in the matter of trimmings, but so delicate was her touch she could often distinguish colors. He added, however, that she never depended entirely upon her touch in matching shades, but verified her selections with the eyes of the clerk and her companion.—Chicago Tribune.

Joan of Arc Before the Judges.

The questions addressed to Joan and her answers day by day have been transmitted in the records of the court. To read them is to understand the brutal ferocity with which she was tortured, until, turning on her accuser, she cried: "You call yourself my judge. Be careful what you do, for I am indeed sent by the Lord, and you place yourself in great danger."

To answers almost sublime succeeded answers filled with naive ingenuity. Questions were plied, traitorously conceived, concerning the visions which had come to her and the celestial voices which she heard and which throughout her mission had counseled and guided her. But on this point she was firmly silent. It was as though it were a secret which she was forbidden to betray. She consented to take an oath to speak nothing but the truth but, concerning her visions, she made a reservation. "You could cut my head off before I would speak," she protested. "At night, in the darkness of her dungeon, St. Catherine and St. Marguret appeared to her, and celestial voices comforted her. She avowed that she had seen them "with these eyes of her body . . . and when they leave me," she added, "I wish that they would take me with them."—"The National Hero of France," by Maurice Loutet de Monvel, in Century.

CARPENTER & McCLELLAN,

Attorneys-At-Law.

PRACTICE IN ALL COURTS OF THE STATE.

McKINNEY, TEXAS.

Dr. Edwin L. Burton

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Physicians and Surgeons.

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All kinds of Dental work done and guaranteed first class.

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Teeth extracted without pain.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

PARKER'S GINGER TONIC

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

HINDERCORN

PENNYROYAL PILLS

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

The Cash Commands The Price!

The five Great Sales at the New Store of C. L. MISTROT is the Talk of McKinney.

It is the talk of the towns within 100 miles of McKinney. Multitudes are flocking here from everywhere. They carry off the Bankrupt Goods in a hurry. They come with the cash to take away the fire goods and drummers' samples. Such a crowd of willing and appreciative CASH purchasers never before invaded the city. They come from everywhere and with a jam and a look of surprise they buy all they can carry. They know where to get the goods We announce it publicly, but they wonder how we get them so cheap. They see us sell them in a hurry, yet they wonder why we let them go at such low prices. Our answer is: THE CASH COMMANDS THE PRICE.

1

The Fire Goods
From A. Kory & Co.
of New Orleans.

2

The Sample Goods
From Drummers' Samples.

3

The Bankrupt Stock
Bought at One-half Price.

4

The Shoe Samples
From Drummers' Sample.

5

The Big Lot of Ladies' Capes
Of all kinds.

All will go during the next few weeks with a mighty rush—with a great crush. One price to all.

Goods the People Want.
Prices the People Like.

Men's black and blue wool Mackintoshes all sizes, regular $9 coats, about 25 dozen in this bankrupt stock. Entire lot will go at choice for $4.50

A Dress of 10 yards of Prints of Checks, Fire Sale price 25c.

A dress 10 yds Gingham, fire sale price 50c

"Fruit of the Loom" Domestic, 4-4, Fire Sale price 6¼c.

1000 lbs Fresh Candy, cream mixtures, bankrupt price, pound 10c.

Lonsdale Domestic, Fire Sale Price 7c.

7-8 Bleaching, Fire Sale price, 10 yds 35c.

4-4 Bleaching, Fire Sale price, 10 yds 49c.

Boys' Knee Pants, new invoice from A. Kory & Sons, 5-10, 15c.

10 yards Canton (Bankrupt Stock 50 pcs) for 39c.

250 Boys Knee Pants Suits, slightly damaged by water, all sizes; just the thing for school, choice, suit, 50c.

NO DEVIATION FROM PRICE.

Your Dollar has the same purchasing power as your neighbor's.

Money Back if you want it.

Purchasers

Are getting the CHEAPEST GOODS They ever Bought.

C. L. MISTROT'S.

South Side Square.

M'KINNEY, TEXAS.

TO THE MERCHANTS.

You shall not charge to the customer who pays the cash, the credit price that is paid by him who buys on time. You shall not burden your cash client with the debt of the credit one. His children are to be clothed, or he has the care of an aged mother or he supports a cherished sister. He should not be made to carry the credit load; he should not be made to contribute towards the 20 30 or 40 additional per cent necessary to make good the shortage on your books derived from those who fail to pay their accounts. His burden is heavy enough to bear—you should not press these thorns upon his brow. You should not make use of sharp practices upon your customer. You shall not charge him two prices on your goods. You should have one price for everybody. You should endeavor to represent your goods correctly. He expects this of you. He confides in you. You should not deceive him under the cloak of friendship. That dollar or two he spends with you may be the price of a day's work; he has earned it honorably and it belongs to him and he is entitled to its full benefit. You should not take any part of it to which you are not justly entitled, and which is a small per cent only for your services. You should know that a merchant is not an emperor who wields his sceptre of gold and bids his subjects do his will.

The merchant is a public servant whose object should be to serve the people honorably and justly, and while he should be compensated, he should charge a reasonable per cent on the price of his goods for his services. You should not make use of a dickering system. It is not just nor honorable. You should not thus adopt methods which bring disgrace upon your fellow merchants. You should not require your clerks, for the price of their salary, or for any other consideration, to practice sharp methods upon your clients.

The dickering practice is not a correct method; it is an uncertainty for your customer as he does not always know the value of the goods he buys. It is a doubtful and disgraceful one for yourself and your employees. You might ease your conscience by saying: business is business—so, also could the highwayman who robs his victim say with you, business is business. Your plan and his are identical; the only difference is that the law reaches him while there is no law against you. But listen; your doom, like the highway man's, is sealed! Public sentiment is against you. You may walk on the gilded streets of prosperity for a time, but the pavement is brittle and will soon wear out, and there is no material being left to build with. The people are progressive—have a solving these questions; they are being educated in all branches of finance, and more than have seen that Wm J Bryan's plan of money making has failed they are adopting the plan of C. L. MISTROT, and his method of money saving is now existing their situation. They have have concluded that the prosperity of a people does not depend upon the making of money but upon its saving.

100 Men's Business Suits, cannot be matched in McKinney for double the money, slightly damaged by water only, choice, (entire lot must go) $5.00

All the Men's $1.50, 2.00, 2.50 and 3.00 Sample Shoes, all kinds and styles, best product of the shoe factory, choice $1.50.

Men's good working suits, big lot, been wet, all sizes, black etc, Fire sale $2.50

All the Ladies $1.25, 1.50, 2.00, and 3.00 Sample Shoes go in this special grand sale this week at $1.25.

10-4 White, California finish, Blankets, would be a real goo bargain at 3.50, in all about 135 pairs, "must go" price $2.50.

Another addition of a big Hat stock from a St. Louis assignee, on special Hat counter, $1.50 to 3.00 grades, regardless of quality, choice $1.00.

A carload of Towels, Crash and Linens at just 50c on the dollar.

The Fire Goods and Clothing from A. Kory & Sons are going like a cake of ice on a summer's day."

This will be the Banner Bargain Week of McKinney.

ARBUCKLE BEST COFFEE 15c.

Not the Cataract of Lodore but the Niagara at MISTROT'S.

The Cataract at Lodore would furnish a mild description of the rush in our store during this extraordinary sale of extraordinary values.

A mighty rushing,
skipping, striving,
raving, hurrying
crowd of people
trading—
They go tossing,
twisting, waving,
skipping, crossing,
from counter to
counter.
They go
helter-skelter,
Hurry scurry,
Astounding, confounding, hurrying
The clerks in their
purchasing.
Here they come, frisking
flinging, rising,
And their countenances
with delight sparkling
On account of the rattling and astonishing
Cheapness of the goods
they are buying.
The people strong
Then dart along,
Giggling and talking,
Buying and hurrying.
As if a war waging
The goods and prices
among.
You see them tossing
And parting and leaving
The store at Mistrot's;
You see them carrying
Away bundles astound'g
Heaving, swelling and
groaning.
You see others coming
and going,
Receding and speeding
Around and around
With endless rebound,
Smiting and fighting
To get first chance at the
BARGAIN—
A sight to delight in,
Dizzying and deafening
The ear with its sound.

Mistrot's

Best Granulated Sugar 25lbs for $1. Best English Navy Beans 12 1-2lbs for 25c.
Best California Raisins 6-lbs for 25c. Best Germania Coffee 2 pks for 25 Cents.

ARBUCKLE COFFEE 15C PER PACKAGE.

GOODS THE PEOPLE WANT. STRICTLY CASH. PRICES THE PEOPLE LIKE.

What $1.00 Buys.

A good pair of work pants.
A man's fine Hat.
2 heavy pair 60c drawers.
4 red wool Undershirts.
10 pair men's all-wool white sox
10 pair ladies fine seamless black Hose.
A good $1.50 wool Undershirt.
A pair ladies everyday Shoes.
A pair ladies kid Shoes.
10 yards all-wool flannel.

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

18 Boys black corded Suits, $1.75 values, our price, $1.23.
45 Boys knee Suits, excellent value, 69c.
23 Boys knee Suits, excellent value, $1.
24 Boys knee Suits, none better at price we name, 1.50
12 Boys long pants Suits, good value, 1.98.
18 Boys long pants Suits, excellent quality, 2.98.
12 Boys long pants Suits in black wool clay, to close out the lot at 4.50.
20 Boys Cassimere Suits, 6.50 grade, good for the money, 3.98.
36 Boys knee Pants 10c.
A big lot boys knee pants, 40c value, at 25c.
20 boys knee pants 75c quality, 48
24 boys knee Pants 50c quality, 38
60 prs boys wool jeans pants, 1.00 and 75c quality, at 65c.
White Blankets, per pair, 50c.
Good Bed Blankets, per pair, 66c
White Blankets, per pair, 75c.
White bankets, per pair, 1.50.
Grey Blankets, per pair, 2.00
A good white Blanket, 3.50 quality, per pair, 2.50.

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

Nice 5.00 white Blanket, pair 3.50
Grey blanket, per pair, 50c.
Grey blanket, per pair 1.00
Grey blanket, per pair, 1.25.
Grey blanket, per pair, 1.50.
Grey blanket, per pair, 2.00.
Red blanket, per pair, 2.00.
Red blanket, per pair, 1.50.
Good warm Quilts, 50c.
Good warm Quilts, 1.00.
Good warm Quilts, 1.25c

Never before have we shown such good values in Blankets. Our 2.50 and 3.50 white blankets are to be seen to be appreciated.

The attention of the public is called to the following prices, which, considering the quality of the goods, have never been equaled in Texas:

Men's white sox, all wool, regular 25c value., 10c a pair.
Oil cloths, 10c yard.
10 yards cotton Checks for 25c.
Men's Turkey Red Handkerchiefs 2c each.
Carpet warp 85c bale.
Blankets, white and grey, at 50c.
Men's heavy cotton sox, men's grey woolen sox, children's black hose, all at 5c pair.
Best man's hat for the price, 1.00
All-wool red flannels, 10c yard.
The cheapest Dry goods ever shown in Texas. The best, 7.50

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

Men's red wool undershirts, 25c.
Good roller end suspenders 15c.
Heavy blue twill flannel 15 yd.
Pants at one-half their usual price
A good pair men's wool pants 1.00 per pair.
Heavy grey twill flannels, 12½c yd
All-wool Jeans, 25c yard.
A good suit black clothes, 7.50.
Fine black worsted suit of men's clothes, regular 15.00 values, marked 7.50.
50c for the best work shirt in town.
1.00 for good wool pants.
50c for a good pair of pants.
10 spools best sewing thread, 25c.

What 50c Buys.

Yards are measured by inches, and so are dollars measured by pennies.
Boys knee pants; good 75c quality
A ladies waist others get double for them.
A good pair men's work pants worth elsewhere three times the price.
A man's good work shirt. The best in the state for the price.
A ladies wool vest.
10 pairs good socks.

One pair best men's Glove for the price in Texas.

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

A ladies ribbed vest 15c.
One dozen lead pencils 15c.
Men's fine silk scarfs, 15c.
Ladies Jersey Gloves, 15c.
Gent's 25c quality cuff butons 15c
Ladies breast pins, 15c

98c

10 yards nice wash fabric dress goods, 98c.
A pair Ladies fine shoes, 98c.
A pair men's good pants, 98c.
A boys nice knee suit 98c.
A pair misses fiine shoes, 98c.

$5.00

Gent's fine wool suits, a big lot to close out, 5.00.
Ladies fine cloaks 2.50.
Gray mixtures all-wool fabrics; would be cheap at 40c. Mistrot's price per yard only 23c.

Another addition of a big hat stock from St. Louis, (assignee sale) on special hat counter, regardless of quality. Choice 1.00.
10-4 white, California finish, blankets would be real good values at 3.50; in all about 35 pairs; close them at 2.50.

100 men's business suits—cannot be matched—slightly damaged by water; choice of entire lot 5.00.
Men's good working suits, big lot [illegible] all sizes; black etc, 2.50 been wet,
All the men's [illegible] 50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00 and 3.50 sample shoes [illegible] our special grand sale this week at 1.50.

Prices tell and we tell the prices; read them all it will be time well spent. The fine goods and clothing from A Kory & Sons are going like a "cake of ice on a hot summer's day."

Dark colored prints, 33 yards 1.00
Fair staple prints, 25 yards 1.00
Good regular staple prints—nice styles, fast colors, 20 yards, 1.00
Handsome suiting prints, 16 yds for 1.00.
Heavy brown cottons, yard wide 25 yards for 1.00

Cotton check crash, 10 yds 25c.
Linen check crash, 10 yards 75c.
Red table Damask, per yard 18c.
Red table damask, per yard 25c.
A nice pair ladies seamless black hose 10c.
A yard of good table oil cloth 10c
A dozen pants buckles 10c.
A pair of men's suspenders, 10c.
A pair of cuffs, 10c.
A 3-ply linen collar, 10c.
A gents scarf, 10c.
A pair cuff buttons, 10c.
A nice collar button 10c.
A pair ladies gloves, 10c.
A curling iron, 10c.
A ladies hemstitched handkerchief, 10c.

During all of next week and for weeks to come we shall continue to offer the most amazing and surprising values ever shown in the city of McKinney during the long period of its history.

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

25 pairs White 10-4 California finish blankets, good 3.50 kind, pair 2.50.
25 pairs, white 11-4 Blankets as above, per pair 3.50.
Ladies Jersey Wool Gloves, regular 25c kind, per pair, 15c.
Mens Fine Black Hose, the 25c kind, 4 in a box, to close out the lot, 4 for 88c.
200 yds all-wool red twilled Flannel, bankrupt price per yd. 15c.
250 yards all-wool eiderdown, bankrupt sale price per yard 25c.
50 dress patterns, wash fabrics, fire sale price 10 yards for 98c.
A ladies nice, black cape, trimmed with braid or fur, bankrupt sale price, 1.50.
A ladies nice, black cape, trimmed with braid, a nice garment, 1.00.
8 ladies fine, black capes, trimmed with braid and jet, 7.50 kind at 4.50.
6 ladies fine, black capes trimmed with silk braid, the 5.00 kind, bankrupt sale price 2.50.
14 ladies fine black capes, trimmed with fur collar and lap at 3.50.
10 ladies fine silk plush capes, sold in other stores at 8.00 and 10.00, bankrupt sale price, 5.00
5 ladies fine black capes, the most stylish garment in town, sold elsewhere at 12.00, fire sale price, 7.50.
200 yards fruit of the loom bleached cotton, a yard wide, you know its worth, fire sale price, 6¼c.

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

300 yards regular 5c calico, the the entire lot at 10 yards for 39c.
1000 yards Lonsdale bleaching, bankrupt sale price, 7c.
500 yards, fine bleach, "good as gold"— you know the brand, fire sale price 5½c.
20 dozen ladies ribbed vests, regular 20c quality, half price, 10c.
10 dozen ladies ribbed vests, 35c quality at 25c.
20 dozen ladies handkerchiefs, the usual 4c quality, bankrupt sale price each, 1c.
20 dozen Misses Handkerchiefs, the usual 4c kind, bankrupt sale price, 1c.
Mens fine ribbed Mackintoshes, black and blue, are well worth 5.00, half price, 2.93.
50 boys suits, 1.00 quality, good and warm, at half price, 50c.
48 Boys knee pants, 20c quality, one-fourth price, 5c.
600 pairs mens fine cassimere pants, 1.75, 2, 2.50 and 2.75, fire sale price pair, 1.25.
Gray flannel dress goods, strictly all-wool; would be good enough 50c a yard. Mistrot's price, 38c
A nice brocaded single width dress fabric, in several shades to select from, per yard 10c,
10 pieces gray [illegible] mixtures dress fabrics, half-wool and [illegible] double width; would sell at 20c. Mistrot's price, per yard 12½c.
Half-wool Hamilton alpaca dress goods in different colors, always ways sold at 10c yard. Mistrot's price per yard 8⅓c.
A dress pattern; they go 10¼ yards for 65 c.
A dress pattern; get one, 10¼ yards for 25c.
Men's dark riding gloves, 50c

A dress; they go flying, 10¼ yards for 85c.
Men's heavy farmers' suspenders 15c.
Men's good rubber suspenders 5c
Men's good rubber suspenders 10c
Men's fine suspender, 20c.
Men's fine suspenders 25c.
Boys suspenders 10c.
Big assortment of suspenders, and prices are down.
Men's fine kid gloves, 1.00 quality, 75c.
Men's heavy work gloves, 50c grade, 25c.
Men's good cloth top gloves, 50c value. Mistrot sells them 25c.
Men's 50c fine gloves, small sizes, 35c.
Men's cloth gloves, good and warm, 25c.
Men's wool gloves, 50c.
Men's Daniel Hayes, genuine buck work, medium size gloves, 1.25 quality, 99c.
Men's horse skin gloves, good, durable and looks like buck; at Mistrot's 75c.
Men's horse skin gloves, 75c grade, 50c.
Boys gloves; Mistrots price, 25c.
Boys gloves, good and warm, 35c.

Misses nice, light grey jackets, stylish garment 2.50.
Misses nice black jackets, handsome garment, 2.50.
Misses dark cloth jackets, very cheap at 2.50.
Ladies heavy grey jackets, 2.50.
Ladies heavy black cloth jackets 2.50.
Ladies heavy black chinchilla jackets, 5.00 values, 4.50.
Ladies heavy long cloaks, very cheap at 1.00.
Ladies light jackets, 1.00.
Our capes and wraps are the talk of the people.
Ladies' and Misses' Light Weight Wraps, 60c and $100.
24 Ladies' Black Capes, black fur trimmed, only $1 50.
12 Ladies, Fancy Capes, medium weight, $1 98.
36 Ladies' Black Capes, good warm wraps, very cheap at $2 50.
10 Ladies' Brown Cloth Capes, a very stylish garment, at $5. 00.

36 Ladies' Black Capes, good quality; usually sold at $4 50; a nice garment; our price $3 50.
12 Ladies' Brown Cloak Capes, heavy quality, double Capes cheap at $2 75.
9 Ladies' Black Cloth Capes, a handsome garment, $1. 50.
8 Ladies' Black Plush Capes, light fur trimmed, a handsome garment, $6. 95.
8 Ladies' Black Plush Capes, black fur trimmed, a very stylish garment, $3 50.
8 Very handsome Black Plush Capes at $5. 00.
Ladies' Black Hose, per doz., 50c.
Ladies' Black Hose, per doz., 60c.
50 dozen Ladies' Black Hose, per dozen, $1. 00.
50 dozen Ladies' Black Hose, per dozen seamless, $1. 50.
10 dozen Ladies' Black Heavy Rib Hose, $1. 50.
10 dozen Ladies' Fine Hose, $2. 00 and $3. 00.
50 dozen Men's Gray Heavy Sox, per dozen, 50c.
25 dozen Men's Heavy Sox, per dozen, 75c.
25 dozen Men's Gray Heavy Sox, per dozen, $1. 00.
25 dozen Men's Colored Seamless Fine Sox, worth 25c pair, our price, per dozen, $1. 00.
25 dozen Men's Fine Black Hose, per dozen, only $1. 00.

10 dozen men's fine black hose per dozen, only 1.50.
Men's all-wool white hose, per pair 22c.
Ladies all wool black rib hose, per pair 25c.
Ladies all wool black plain hose, per pair, 23c.
25 dozen childrens hose, pair, 5c.
5 dozen children wool hose, pr, 5c
10 dozen misses ribbed grey hose, small size per dozen 50c.
10 dozen misses black plain hose, per dozen 1.00.

100 pairs men work pants 75c to 1.00 values at 33c.
200 pairs mens work pants, 1.00, 2.00 and 2.50 values at 69c.
100 dozen mens work shirts, regular 50c values at 25c.

Arbuckle Coffee 15c.

10 dozen boys knee pants, regular sizes, 5 to 8, 35 to 50c quality, 15c.
20 doz. mens mixed lot undershirts, all kinds, wool and cotton, fleeced and unfleeced, at 25c.
500 pairs mens, womens and childrens Sample Shoes are offered as follows:
Mens shoes, including all kinds, from cheapest to best goods, will be swept away at 1.50.
Womens shoes, including all kinds, cheapest to best grades, will be swept away at 1.25 per pr.
Children and Misses shoes, all kind from cheapest to best at 75c pr.
1000 mens fine black and colored fur hats, only a few of a kind. These were bought mostly from drummers samples. We paid one half the regular price for them, 50 cents on the dollar. Choice of the entire lot 1.00.
1000 men's fine shoes, all kinds and all sizes. These were bought largely from drummers samples. We offer choice of this lot at 1.50
5000 pairs, ladies fine shoes, all kinds, all styles and all sizes. These were bought mostly from drummer's samples and comprise all kinds, all styles and all sizes. We sell choice choice at 1.50.
1000 pairs Misses fine shoes, drummers samples, choice of this lot, 75c.
500 pairs mens fine calf boots, drummers samples choice per pair, 2.50.
100 men's fine cassimere suits, French black twills, the 15.00 kinds, bankrupt price 10.00.
58 Mens black and dark twill 9.00 and 10.00 suits, bankrupt price 7.50.
100 mens strictly all-wool soft serge, $5 value at half price 2.50.
69 Brown and gray and dark heavy mens working suits, 7.50 value at half price, 3.75.
62 mens California all-wool suits, 10.00 values at one-half price $6.
82 mens black and wool cla suits, the 7.50 kind, fire sale pr 6.50.

This Sale Will be one that will be long remembered by the Cash Buyers of McKinney,
This is an event in the sale of Merchandise when the CASH Commands the Price.

C. L. MISTROT'S, The Cash Merchant,

Buyer of Fire Stocks, Bankrupt Goods, Drummer's samples.

SOUTH SIDE SQUARE,
M'KINNEY, TEXAS.

Tutt's Pills Cure All Liver Ills.

A Strong Fortification.

Fortify the body against disease by Tutt's Liver Pills, an absolute cure for sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, constipation, jaundice, biliousness and all kindred troubles.

"The Fly-Wheel of Life"

Dr. Tutt; Your Liver Pills are the fly-wheel of life. I shall ever be grateful for the accident that brought them to my notice. I feel as if I had a new lease of life. J. Fairleigh, Platte Cannon, Col.

Tutt's Liver Pills

W. G. Adams spent Wednesday in Plano.

Furniture, chairs, organs and pianos at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

Lester Branch, a Dallas cotton man, was here this week.

Wall paper, paints, oils and window glass at City Drug Store.

Messrs and Mesdames Sol Fitzhugh and Jno. C. Cooke Sundayed in Allen.

Beautiful Japanese gold fish for sale at the Nickle Store,

Miss Lena Woolford, of Allen, is visiting here.

Window glass all sizes at City Drug Store.

Mr. G. Mabry, of Bonham is here.

Writing desks at all prices at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

Master Roy McWilliams is spending a few days with Melissa friends.

window glass cheap at City Drug Store

Miss Lizzie Reading, of Minneola, is visiting the family of Mr. Jim Cooper here.

Carpets, lace curtains, window shades and bookcases at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

Miss Pearl Stacy entertained a number of guests very pleasantly Tuesday evening.

Clocks and all kinds of house furnishing goods from the cradle to the grave at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

The Masonic school of instruction will be conducted at Melissa beginning Tuesday Jan. 12. Sam R. Hamilton will conduct the school.

ATTENTION! Messrs Goostree & Houston derire to see you at once. Don't disappoint them, but call at their grocery store at once.

Master Clifford Thomas visited his grandparents in the country Sunday.

DO YOU EAT? If you do Goostree & Houston desire your assistance in reducing their mammoth stock of eatables.

Willie Gibson, of Weatherford, was one of the visiting attendants at the christmas ball. He was the guest of Jno. C. Cooke while here.

You can save money by buying wall paper, paints, and glass at City Drug Store

C. T. Lewis left this week for Louisville, Ky., where he will attend the Louisville school of medicine.

Go to J. P. Crouch & Co. for crockery, queensware, tinware and all kinds of cutlery.

L. L. Lewis, of Stillwater, Ala., is visiting his father, Mr. Sam Lewis, and family near Rheas Mill.

The Nickle Store continues to be the place for bargains

Misses Lula and Della Allison are guests of Mrs. Giles Houston in Gainesville.

Go to J. P. Crouch & Co's. for baby carriages.

Miss Affie Quisenberry was the guest of Miss Leona Barnes in this city the first of the week.

Misses Myrtle and Kate Burger are visiting in Ladonia.

All the standard cough and la grippe medicines at City Drug Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Estes were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Good Graves in the country Sunday.

Ed Largent frightened a burglar away from the rear of his store Saturday night. The prowler was in the act of entering through a window.

Goostree & Houston, grocers, wil furnish your holiday eating at excursion prices. Don't dally, but call early and avoid the rush.

Mrs. Agnes Fore, aged 86 years, died at the residence of her son near Melissa Sunday morning. Interment Monday.

READERS if you want old papers to paste on walls or place under carpets you can get them at The Democrat office for 25cts per hundred.

Joe Rushing, of Abilene, has been the guest of John and Lark Young for several days recently.

The Nickle Store occupies the same old stand, Call and see

The mammoth establishment of J. P. Crouch & Co. is packed with a mammoth stock. This is the largest business, both in space and completeness of stock, in North Texas. If you do not wish to buy it would more than repay a visit made for no other purpose than merely that of inspection and sightseeing.

Mesdames T. A. McClenny of Kaufman and G. R. Wear of Sherman are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Thomas, 3 miles southwest of McKinney.

Awarded
Highest Honors—World's Fair.
DR.
PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER
MOST PERFECT MADE.
A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.
40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

Born—on the 27th inst to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lawrence, a baby boy. The Democrat tenders congratulations to Arthur, who was formerly one of its employes.

Miss Gradie Bogan who is teaching at Heardsville spent Christmas with her mother here.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Parker of Sherman were guests of relatives here last week.

J. T. Branch is erecting a new residence for Abe Enloe three miles south of McKinney.

Mrs. G W. Taylor of Waxahachie is the guest of her mother, Mrs. Wade of the Wade hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Johnson of Royse City were guests of their daughter, Mrs. S. H. Cole, here last week.

Miss Florence Lemon left last week on a visit to relatives and friends at Dandridge, Jefferson county, Tenn.

Patent Star Oil for harness, saddles shoes and buggy tops makes a fine dressing strickly water proof. Manufactured by H. T. Brantley. Sold by Wallace & Everett, druggists; also at Central wagon yard, McKinney, Tex.

Henry Warden, one of Denton's liverymen, spent a few days the guest of his parents Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Warden, in McKinney last week.

Captain Sweeney, U. S. A., San Diego, Cal., says: "Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy is the first medicine I have ever found that would do me any good." Price 50 cents. For sale by C. C Provine. 2

On the 24th inst A. H. Barrett mailed a petition of 112 signers to the second postmaster general at Washington asking that a postoffice be established at the Ellis gin, seven miles northeast of McKinney.

Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup is sold lor only fifty cents a bottle. It will cure a cough that might prove serious or perhaps fatal. Ask your druggist for a sample bottle. Manufactured by A. C. Simmons, Jr., Medicine Company, Sherman, Texas.

Miss Bessie Reeding of Mineola is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cooper.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Bowlby and daughter, Miss Amy, of Sherman are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Mayhew.

W. H. Hicks, teacher of Beck Branch school, and J. R. Hagins of the same community were in McKinney Wednesday.

Are you made miserable by Indigestion, Constipation, Dizziness, Loss of Appetite, Yellow Skin? Shiloh,s Vitalizer is a positive cure. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

Ed Thomas has completed a thorough business course in one of the leading commercial schools of the state and returned to McKinney.

HELP! HELP!! HELP!!!—Everybody are carrying off our groceries. We want you to help the good work along. Goostree & Houston.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Thompson and little daughter, Francis, spent Christmas with Sherman relatives.

Work first class and rates cheaper than anywhere else in Texas at the City Dye Works.

C. E. Obenchain, the piano tuner, came in from the east to spend the holidays with relatives in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Martin arrived last week from the west. They will again make their home in Collin

The best cough cure is Shiloh's cure. A neglected cough is dangerous. Stop it at once with Shiloh's Cure. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

R. L. Reed and family of Denton county spent Christmas with relatives at Viney Grove.

The old reliable Star Restaurant is still doing business at the same old stand in Bingham block, McKinney, Tex. Thompson Bros., Props.

Miss Mollie Eubanks was the guest of Mrs. Jesse Shain last week and attended the Christmas ball.

Why leave your rooms bare? You can buy wall paper from 5c a roll up at City Drug Store

Miss Cora Cummins was the guest of her brother, E. C. Cummins and family, in Ennis last week.

Big Bargains.

In wall paper and paints for 30 days to reduce stock at City Drug Store.

Harry White and Gerard Foote are spending the holiday vacation in this city. The former with his parents, and the latter with relatives and friends of his old home.

Thompson Bros. are proprietors of the Star Restaurant and run the most popular catering house in McKinney.

Miss Sallie Andrews has returned from Chicago.

The old reliable City Dye Works s the place to have your soiled clothe cleaned and repressed. Rates reasonable and work guaranteed.

Miss Alice Doman of Abilene is the guest of friends in McKinney, her former home.

Uriah Jones, Hezekiah Brown and John Peter Smith will testify to the wonderful curative properties of Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup. Sample bottles free. Satisfaction or money refunded.

County Clerk Walden is recreating in Florida.

"My baby had croup and was saved by Shiloh's Cure," writes Mrs. J. B. Martin, of Huntsville, Ala. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

The Collin County Milling company's office up town has been removed from the Johnson block to rooms up stairs over Dr. J. P. Webster's store.

Mules For Sale.

Ten work mules, four years old past, for sale cheap; half cash, balance 12 months time. Call on John Martin, 6 miles northeast of McKinney.

Miss Estelle Lansdale came up from Dallas to spend the holidays here with relatives.

The City Dye Works has now been in McKinney several years and its trade is still increasing. Give them a call when you have an old suit to be cleaned and pressed.

Miss Foncie Rogers entertained a number of her young friends Monday evening at her parent's residence on South Wilcox street.

Consumption can be cured by the use of Shiloh's Cure. This great Cough Cure is the only known remedy for that terrible disease. For sale by c. C. Provine. 2

One of McKinney's business men and a school teacher had a lively scrap on the east side of the square Saturday.

Mrs. B. W. Rhine and children are spending the holidays with relatives at Paris.

Tom Davis formerly one of the Mississippi store's popular clerks spent Christmas here. Tom is now with the Geo. Murphy dry goods establishment in Sulphur Springs.

DEATHS.

The remains of W. M. Williams were shipped here from SanAntonia and interred in the Pecan Grove cemetery Sunday evening with Knights of Pythias honors. The deceased was for many years a member of the firm of Howard & Williams in the saloon business in McKinney. Nearly two years ago he removed to San Antonio where he engaged in business and died after a short illness. He had many warm personal friends in this city and county.

Mrs. A. S. Hurt died in Weatherford on the 28th at the advanced age of 81. The deceased was the grandmother of Mrs. Judge Garnett of this city. Her remains were shipped here and interred in Pecan Grove cemetery Tuesday Dec. 29 at 3 p. m.

Mrs. S. E. Hill died at the residence of her son-in-law, J. G. Mathews, in this city Tuesday evening, Dec. 29. For the past six months Grandma Hill, who was in her 79th year, has been in failing health and death was not unexpected. She was the wife of the late R. M. Hill and the mother of 13 children, 9 of whom survive her. For 55 years the deceased was a faithful member of the Missionary Baptist church, and a kind, loving mother and neighbor. A large cortege of sorrowing relatives and friends followed the remains to Pecan Grove cemetery where she was gently laid to rest the next evening at 3 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Robertson conducted the funeral ceremonies.

Saturday morning as Uncle Tom Rattan, one of the earliest and best known citizens of Collin county, was preparing to drive to McKinney with his son Hamp, in a buggy he was suddenly stricken down with heart failure and died instantly. The deceased was one of a large family of children of whom only one, Mrs. Mary Fitzhugh of McKinney, now survives. He was a brother-in law of the late ex-Gov. J. W. Throckmorton and leaves a wife, several children and many relatives to mourn his death. Funeral, monday, from the family residence near Melissa and interment at the old Throckmorton cemetery. In the death of this honored old pioneer The Democrat feels keenly the loss of a true friend and constant reader, and we join the wide circle of acquaintances in extending condolence to the relatives in this sad and sudden visitation of death to their household.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss
LUCAS COUNTY.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

SWORN to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896.

A. W. GLEASON,
NOTARY PUBLIC.

{ SEAL }

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucuous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Mrs. R. S. W Parker, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. T. J. Nale, left Monday to join her husband at Ft. Worth. Mr. Parker was formerly editor of the Ardmorite at Ardmore, I. T.

Save Your Life

By using "THE NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the Kidneys, Bladder and Back in male or female. It relieves retention of water, and pain in passing it almost immediately. Save yourselves by using this marvelous cure. Its use will prevent fatal consequences in almost all cases by its great alterative and healing powers. Sold by Erwin & Fant, druggists, McKinney, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Davis gave a family dining at their residence on College Hill Tuesday. Mrs. Joe Moore, of the Indian Territory, who came to Texas with the host and hostess many years ago from Alabama, was also present.

You run no risk! All dealers sell GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC on a positive guarantee NO CURE NO PAY. Delightful to take. Price 50c. 3

Miss Jimmie Moore of Van Alstyne is the guest of McKinney friends.

A cough is an easy thing to cure if taken in time. It is dangerous to neglect one any length of time. Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup is guaranteed. Fifty cents a bottle.

Dr. J. P. Webster is at San Antonio on a joint visit to his son, Van, and a business errand.

English Spavin Liniment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Blemishes from horses, Blood Spavins, Curbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring-Bone, Stifles, Sprains, all Swollen Throats, etc. Save $50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful Blemish Cure ever known. Sold by Erwin & Fant, druggists, McKinney, Texas.

Prof. A. C. Thompson spent a pleasant Christmas in Sherman.

Willie Mack of Henry College, Campbell, Texas, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Mack in this city.

Plant an Orchard

Before you plant, send for *New Catalogue of McKinney Nurseries*. This catalogue names the varieties adapted to this climate and gives instructions showing how to have, without failing, an abundance of fine fruit in any locality. These instructions are based upon forty years of experience in growing fruit in Texas, and include and refer to the latest and most advanced thought on Southern horticulture. Send to

E. W. KIRKPATRICK,
McKinney, Tex.

Mrs. J. L. Harper and children spent Christmas with Plano relatives.

Nerves

Are the Messengers of Sense,—the Telegraph System of the human body.

Nerves extend from the brain to every part of the body and reach every organ.

Nerves are like fire—good servants but hard masters.

Nerves are fed by the blood and are therefore like it in character.

Nerves will be weak and exhausted if the blood is thin, pale and impure.

Nerves will surely be strong and steady if the blood is rich, red and vigorous.

Nerves find a true friend in Hood's Sarsaparilla because it makes rich, red blood, do their work naturally and well,—the brain is unclouded, there are no neuralgic pains, appetite and digestion are good, when you take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills the best family cathartic and liver stimulant. 25c

Ed & Will's Tonsorial Parlor.

When you wish an easy shave—
As good as barber ever gave—
Call at Ed & Will's Tonsorial room,
At morning, eve. or busy noon.
They'll curl and cut your hair with grace
To suit the contour of your face.
Their room is neat, and all is clean,
Scissors sharp and razors keen,
And all that art and skill can do;
If you will call they'll do for you.
They'll treat you nice and fair,
And neither flinch nor fudge;
You'll always find them there
As sober as a judge.
Children's hair cutting a specialty. Northwest corner of square. McKinney, Texas.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Miss Alice Kirkpatrick who is attending the state university at Austin is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Kirkpatrick, in this city during the holidays.

I was nervous, tired, irritable and cross. Karl's Clover Root Tea has made me well and happy.

MRS. E. B. WORDEN.

For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

What is it? A cure for Coughs, Colds, Croup, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, and all Bronchial Affections of the Throat, Chest and Lungs. 50 doses for 50 cents. Money returned if it fails to give satisfaction, we mean Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup.

Miss Nola Barnes has returned to her home in Ardmore, I. T., after an extended visit to relatives in this city and county.

Pills do not cure constipation. They only aggravate. Karl's Clover Root Tea gives perfect regularity of the bowels. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

MARRIED—Ray C. Tucker and Miss Ella M. Ragsdale were united in the bonds of matrimony by Rev. J. H. Davis, pastor of the Presbyterian church, at the Manse at 7 p. m. Wednesday, Dec. 23. Both the contracting parties reside here.

Hall's Great Discovery.

One small bottle of Hall's Great Discovery cures all kidney and bladder troubles, removes gravel, cures diabetes, seminal emissions, weak and lame backs, and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder, in both men women. Regulates bladder trouble in children. If not sold by your druggist will be sent by mail on receipt of $1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and will cure any case above mentioned.

E. W. HALL, Sole Manufacturer,
P. O. Box 317, Waco, Texas

READ THIS.

Sherman, Tex., Aug. 17.

I certify that I have used Hall's Great Discovery in my family and I can recommend it to the public.

A. L. STRONG.

Sold by Smith Bros.

Will Cloyd, of Greenville, was mingling with friends on our streets Tuesday.

Jovial Frank Hibbits, a north side barber, received a lovely christmas present in the shape of a fine girl baby, which arrived at his home Thursday morning.

A retired merchant, and by the way a silent poet, wrote the following and gave to The Democrat reporter:

To the goose and the gander
That come from way "yander"
To bring beds of ease
For the children among the trees
In this the greatest nation
In all civilization
The land of the brave
And their off-spring to save.

—Dunk'erdorm.

CASTORIA.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

Jim Throckmorton is in town.

RELIGIOUS.

Rev. Joel S. Graves preached a Christmas sermon at Wilson's chapel.

The endeavor societies of this city held a union sunrise praise meeting at the Christian church Christmas morning. The attendance was good and each participant strengthened spiritually. The meeting was led by Plummer Harris.

The subject of the morning's discourse at the Cumberland Presbyterian church next Sunday will be "Second Coming of Christ." The night services are usually conducted in the interest of the unconverted and everybody is cordially invited. Excellent music will be rendered.

Eld. S. W. Crutcher preached his farewell sermon at the Christian church in McKinney Sunday morning. It was also the ordination sermon of his son, J. N. Crutcher. His text was Exodus 25:40 for a very impressive, earnest sermon. At night J. N. Crutcher preached his first sermon after ordination to an attentive congretion. Although but a young man of 21 Mr. Crutcher has been called to the pastorate of the Purcell, I. T., church and gives promise of a ministerial life of eminent distinction.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

Beginning Monday next all denominations of Christians are invited to unite in a "week of prayer." Services will be held on Monday Jan. 4, at the Methodist church. Subject for prayer and discussion—"Humiliation and Thanksgiving." Confession—Psalm 25: 1-18. Joel 2:12-14. Thanksgiving—Psalm 103: 1-6 106: 1-9 145: 4-9. Eph. 1: 3-7.

Tuesday, Jan. 5, at Christian church. Subject—"The Church Universal. 1 Cor. 13: 12-27. Acts 2: 1-18. 1 John 1: 3-7. Mat. 13: 31-33.

Wednesday Jan. 6, at the Baptist church. Subject—"Nations and their Rulers." Mat. 5: 9. Prov. 23: 29-35. Rom. 13: 1-7. Is. 2: 4. Acts 17: 26. Psalm 133.

Thursday Jan. 7, at the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Subject—"Foreign Missions." Rev. 11: 15. Mat. 28: 18-20. Mat. 5: 10-13. Isa. 35.

Friday Jan. 8, at the Presbyterian church. Subject—"Home Missions." Isa. 65: 17 25. Luke 24: 46-46. Luke 10: 1-2. Luke 14: 23.

Saturday Jan. 9, at the Methodist church. Subject—"Families and Homes" Col. 3: 14-25. Deut. 11: 18-21. Joel 2: 28-29.

Sunday Jan. 10, at the Presbyterian church. A special sermon on foreign missions will be preached by the pastor, Rev. J. H. Davies.

All are invited to participate in these services.

Red Men.

Hunting Grounds, McKinney, Tex.: Hiawatha Tribe No 22 met in council on the 30th sun, 8th run and 30th breath, great sun discovery 405, and proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year as follows: J. H. Walton, sachem; F. M. Griffin, Sr. sagamon; S Wiseman, Jr. sagamon; Martin Gerrish, chief of records; Walter B. Wilson, collector of wampum; Ike Swartz, keeper of wampum; G. R. Smith, prophet; Dr. J. T. Taylor, representative to the great council; H. F. Hibbits, trustee.

Marriage Bells.

Recorded in the county clerk's office for week ending Sat. Dec. 26, 1896.

James Stallenger and Miss Fanny Kenney,
B F Doggett and Miss Virginia Bledsoe,
F A Cherry and Mrs Annie Jordan,
W A Stanley and Miss Mattie Huguley,
R L Cowan and Miss M J Baxter,
K P Bell and Miss Bettie Sneathen.
G H Stone and Miss Nora Woodall,
Jesse Howard and Miss Clara Weger,
A S Justice and Miss L A Ham,
Ben Smith and Miss Rosa Stubblefield,
James M Thompson and Miss M A Zachary,
E H Cayce and Miss Susie Brown,
Roy C Tucker and Miss Ella M Ragsdale,
F L Perry and Miss Emma Fields,
A R Boad and Miss R C Marney,
J R Pullen and Miss Cassie Wood,
S M Beasley and Miss Florence Young,
A F Franklin and Miss Susie Crump,
J E Stiff and Miss Minnie L Evans.
Henry Kelley and Miss Linnie Spradley
F A Jenkins and Miss Ollie L Walker,
L S Anderson and Miss Rosettie Hart,
G W F Kirkland and Miss Effie VanBurkle.
L S Anderson and Miss M L Cox.

If you find the slightest fault in a pair of BUCKSKIN BREECHES, back they go. We don't want any of our pants to be one stitch the wrong side of best. We put a guarantee in the pocket of each pair—if you find a fault in them or any other make as good or better, you can have your money back.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sneed, of St. Louis, arrived in McKinney last week and are now the guests of the latter's parents, Assistant Postmaster and Mrs. Bagley. They may reside here permanently in the future as Mr. Sneed, who is a commercial traveler, has been given Texas for his territory.

WANTED IN MCKINNEY—By his brother, S. Goldberg, light complected Jewish pedler who is somewhere in Collin county.

The following young ladies of the Sherman schools were the guests of friends in McKinney last week as they passed through en route to their homes in Farmersville: Misses Lyda Honaker, Annie Bumpass, Bessie Bell, Willie Hubbard and Eva Cook. The hostesses were Miss Helen Knighton and Mrs. H. H. Crouch.

A public debate of the single tax question will take place at Cross Roads school house Friday night, Jan. 8. E. C. Forbes and Solomon Dorn will affirm and W. W. Jones and E. G. Howard will deny.

We know of but one community in the world where dyspepsia is practically unknown, and that is the Shakers of Mount Lebanan, N. Y. These good people have been studying the subject of digestion for more than a hundred years, and that they understand it pretty thoroughly is evidenced in the foregoing fact. Their Digestive Cordial is the safest and best remedy for in cases of indigestion that we know of. A trial bottle can be had through your druggists for the trifling sum of 10 cents.

The Shaker Digestive Cordial supplies the system with food already digested, and at the same time aids the digestion of other foods. It will almost instantly relieve the ordinary symptoms of indigestion, and no sufferer need to be told what these are.

LAXOL is the best medicine for children Doctors recommend it in place of Castor Oil.

Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Mathis entertained a number of young friends at their residence at Rock Hill on the evening of the 26th inst. Several from McKinney and Plano were present.

You can't be well if your blood is impure, but you may have pure blood and good health by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Miss Lena Gazette, of Van Alstyne, visited here briefly, Saturday, while en route to her father's home in Greenville.

J. T. Couch, the organ and piano dealer, is in St. Louis on business

While indulging in the sport of setting off fireworks the little son of Tom Davis, living 8 miles west of McKinney, met with a serious accident Christmas morning in the premature explosion of a large fire cracker by which his left hand was terribly mangled. The little fellow was brought to town and Dr. A. T. Bryant, who dressed the wounds, found it necessary to amputate three of his fingers.

Mrs. Gullett will have a one story brick business house erected at once on the site of the burned building recently occupied by J. W. Asbury's furniture establishment. It will be occupied by Thompson Bros. with their restaurant, and in addition they will conduct a first class bakery.

To Piano Owners

Mr. C. E. Obenchain came in for the holidays and will remain in McKinney until January 15. He will begin tuning pianos on the first and all desiring work will be called on.

Fairfield school dismissed Wednesday for Christmas with a treat of apples and candy to the pupils. The school reopened Monday and seems to be in a very flourishing condition under the management of Pro. W. L. Yarbrough, assisted by Miss Maggie Stewart.

The matrimonial market was unusually brisk christmas eve. Quite a number of intended grooms armed themselves with the coveted papers and sped away to their fair loves in different sections of the county where they reside. Two couples however were pronounced man and wife immediately after their permits were issued them in the county clerk's office. They were J. E. Stiff and Miss Minnie L. Evans, and C. C. Connally and Mrs. E. A. Hubbard. Judge Abernathy spoke the words that made the first couple one and Eld. Jno. M. McKinney officiated for the other.

LIST OF LETTERS.

Remaining unclaimed in the postoffice, at McKinney, Tex, Dec. 24, '96, which, if unclaimed in two weeks, will be sent to Dead Letter Office at Washington, D. C.

LADIES.

Applebee Matty	Richmond Mollie
Byren Gemima	Sebring Clem
Crutcher Mary	Summers Effa
Fraze Annie	Spencer Lula
Holms Jane	Sanders Phebe
Ken E N	Veller Florence
Marah Myrtle	Wells Ellere
Nelson J G	Price A G

GENTLEMEN.

Allen W P	Higgins Sarah
Clay J R	Hornbeak Mr
Coney Thadie	Robinson Willie
Cox A W	Stubblefield George
Davis Jasper	Ussery Thamas T
Dicton Ben	Walker Van
Fergason J T	Williams W L
Gibson James	Hope A J
Hampton M M	

Persons calling for letters on this list must say "advertised" or they may fail to get them.

MRS. M. A. CAMERON,
Postmisstress.

CASTORIA.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

Teachers' Institute.

The next teachers' institute will be held in the public school building Saturday, Jan. 9, 1897. All teachers are expected to attend.

PROGRAM OF WORK.

Pedagogics: The December Number of Educational Foundations, 9:45 to 10:30; J. R. Hendrix, Edwin Booth and J. W. Russell.

Descriptive Geography: South America, with map, 10:30 to 11:15; C. C. Cross, Miss Dora Nichols and J. H. Bennett.

Algebra: Division and factoring, 11:15 to 12:00; F. G. Jones, G. A. Tallant and Tom Hogge.

NOON.

Arithmetic: G. C. D. and L. C. M., 1 to 1:45; Miss Laura Wakefield, W. L. Roper, and T. C. Andrews.

Physics: Attraction, 1:45 to 2:30; I. A. Armstrong, G. P. Gadberry, and J. W. Miller.

Physiology: The Skin, Respiration and Voice, 2:30 to 3:15; S. J. Cresswell, I. N. Robinson and W. H. Razzor.

W. W. SHEPHERD, Co. Supt.
MISS MAGGIE LEDDY, Secy.

H. G. Reed,
G. P. Brown,
C. O. Smith,
C. C. Cross,
Miss Dora Nichols. } Com.

COL. JOHN R. FELLOWS, prominent in New York politics, his creed coming under the head of that which now fits so many brainy lawyers—that of an obedient slave to the dictates of the money power—died in New York last Monday. It is sad to say so, but such funerals now, Texas Farmer thinks, is according to the fitness of things. We want to hear of many more such.—Texas Farmer.

We do not sympathize with the gold standard views of the late Col. Fellows, but our nature revolts at exulting over the death of a political opponent, though he be a "gold bug." Farmer Shaw and the free silver democratic press, which has not censured the above editorial, may revel in such ecstasy, but we will cringe for our country's future if such vindictive partisan prejudice ever gains ascendency.

IT is said that a newly elected neighborhood justice of the peace was presiding in a case where a man was up for beating his wife. The attorney for the man saw that the justice knew nothing about the law and so informed him. "Mr. Constable," said the justice, laying down his brass-rimmed spectacles heavily, "take the lawyer to jail for ten days, give the woman a divorce, lick the husband and bring in a jug of liquor."—Wylie Rustler.

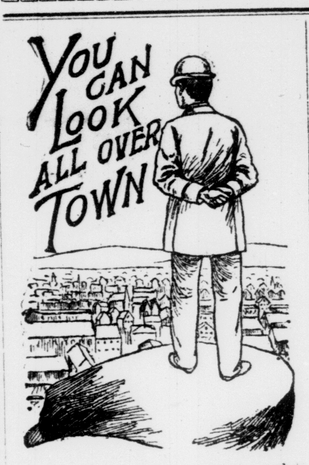
This is the first intimation that such a case had been before his honor, Esq. Perkins.

Headed for the Star Restaurant, Wilson's Old Stand, where I get plenty of tender beef cooked in any manner with meals or lunches.

We wish
You
A Happy and
Prosperous
New Year.

SMITH BROS

Prescription
Druggists.



But you cannot find a more complete line of groceries, staple or fancy, than ours and our prices are rock bottom.

Respectfully,
GOOSTREE & HOUSTON.

A train plunged from the Cahaba bridge, 30 miles from Memphis, Tenn., on the 27th inst. to the rocks below, a distance of more than 100 feet. Twenty passengers were killed. It is supposed that fiends in human form removed a rail which caused the fearful plunge.

Constitutional Changes.

Verona, Tex.

The constitution is the people's safeguard; it is their fortification against vicious legislation. If this fortification needs repairing, the people, who are to be protected by it, should be allowed to repair it. The fact that the constitution limits, or should limit, the power of congress, makes it highly improper that congress should have anything to do with framing it. These fundamental laws are not to protect our legislative bodies against the people, but to protect our people against the legislative bodies. Then our people, and not the legislative bodies, should be allowed to amend them. This power should be removed far from all conventions or legislative bodies, because it has been repeatedly demonstrated that these assemblies have been, and may again be, influenced by things that don't concern the people.

I would not be in favor of direct legislation on minor questions, but I am in favor of a change in the constitution that will allow the people to make other changes by a direct vote of the masses. To avoid easy vibrations in the constitution, it should require something like three-fifths of the votes cast to change it, and it should be further required that the said three-fifths be a majority of the Union.

Give us a constitutional change like this, and free silver would not be two paces behind it, government ownership of railroads would be in sight, and this country would again soon have a government of the people, by the people and for the people. To restore the government to the people is to gain all needed reforms, because they would naturally follow.

There is a right way to go about getting this much needed reform and a wrong way to try to get it. The right way is for all who are interested to meet like brothers, blot out their old party names, take a new one, and go to work like true men fighting solely for principle.

The wrong way to try to get it is for one faction of our people to be so mean as to try to make, or even want, the other faction to humble and take its party name. The restoration of the government to the people is of too much importance to be handicapped by old party names or side issues, and until it is gained, all true reformers should rally under a name that would indicate their high purpose, and make that demand the single bone of contention. Once bring it to the front and it will be a ton[e], whereas the free silv[er] is only a zephyr[.]

WE OFFER FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ONLY

SPECIAL PRICES ON MEN'S WHITE

Dress and Negligee Shirts

AT THE FOLLOWING LOW FIGURES:

750 $1.50 AND $2.00 SHIRTS AT $1.09.
500 $1.25 SHIRTS AT 89 CENTS.
550 75C AND $1.00 SHIRTS AT 49 CENTS.
2000 COLLARS AT 5 CENTS EACH.

We Will also add to this Special Sale the Excellent line of Zeigler Bros. Men's and Chilren's

SHOES

AT ALMOST HALF VALUE.

150 Pairs of Our $1.50 to $3.25 Shoes, Size 12 to 2, will go at $1.39.
157 Pairs, Regular Price $1.50 to $2.50 7 to 12 will be cut to $1.19.
106 Pairs 6 to 9 $1.50 to $2.75 will go at $1.19. 73 pr Infant 0 to 5 15c.
52 Pairs 5 to 8, worth 85 cents to $1.25, go these two days at 64c.

We have the goods at prices no house can cut to and you are loser when you miss these bargains. Yours truly,

McDOWELL & WH[ITE]

WEST SIDE OF SQUARE.

Tutt's Pills Cure All Liver Ills.

A Strong Fortification.

Fortify the body against disease by Tutt's Liver Pills, an absolute cure for sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, constipation, jaundice, biliousness and all kindred troubles.

"The Fly-Wheel of Life"

Dr. Tutt; Your Liver Pills are the fly-wheel of life. I shall ever be grateful for the accident that brought them to my notice. I feel as if I had a new lease of life.
J. Fairleigh, Platte Cannon, Col.

Tutt's Liver Pills

W. G. Adams spent Wednesday in Plano.

Furniture, chairs, organs and pianos at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

Lester Branch, a Dallas cotton man, was here this week.

Wall paper, paints, oils and window glass at City Drug Store.

Messrs and Mesdames Sol Fitzhugh and Jno. C. Cooke Sundayed in Allen.

Beautiful Japanese gold fish for sale at the Nickle Store,

Miss Lena Woolford, of Allen, is visiting here.

Window glass all sizes at City Drug Store.

Mr. G. Mabry, of Bonham is here.

Writing desks at all prices at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

Master Roy McWilliams is spending a few days with Melissa friends.

window glass cheap at City Drug Store

Miss Lizzie Reading, of Minneola, is visiting the family of Mr. Jim Cooper here.

Carpets, lace curtains, window shades and bookcases at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

Miss Pearl Stacy entertained a number of guests very pleasantly Tuesday evening.

Clocks and all kinds of house furnishing goods from the cradle to the grave at J. P. Crouch & Co's.

The Masonic school of instruction will be conducted at Melissa beginning Tuesday Jan. 12. Sam R. Hamilton will conduct the school.

ATTENTION! Messrs Goostree & Houston derire to see you at once. Don't disappoint them, but call at their grocery store at once.

Master Clifford Thomas visited his grandparents in the country Sunday.

DO YOU EAT? If you do Goostree & Houston desire your assistance in reducing their mammoth stock of eatables.

Willie Gibson, of Weatherford, was one of the visiting attendants at the christmas ball. He was the guest of Jno. C. Cooke while here.

You can save money by buying wall paper, paints, and glass at City Drug Store

C. T. Lewis left this week for Louisville, Ky., where he will attend the Louisville school of medicine.

Go to J. P. Crouch & Co. for crockery, queensware, tinware and all kinds of cutlery.

L. L. Lewis, of Stillwater, Ala., is visiting his father, Mr. Sam Lewis, and family near Rheas Mill.

The Nickle Store continues to be the place for bargains

Misses Lula and Della Allison are guests of Mrs. Giles Houston in Gainesville.

Go to J. P. Crouch & Co's. for baby carriages.

Miss Affie Quisenberry was the guest of Miss Leona Barnes in this city the first of the week.

Misses Myrtie and Kate Burger are visiting in Ladonia.

All the standard cough and la grippe medicines at City Drug Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Estes were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Good Graves in the country Sunday.

Ed Largent frightened a burglar away from the rear of his store Saturday night. The prowler was in the act of entering through a window.

Goostree & Houston, grocers, wil furnish your holiday eating at excursion prices. Don't dally, but call early and avoid the rush.

MRS. Agnes Fore, aged 86 years, died at the residence of her son near Melissa Sunday morning. Interment Monday.

READERS if you want old papers to paste on walls or place under carpets you can get them at The Democrat office for 25cts per hundred.

Joe Rushing, of Abilene, has been the guest of John and Lark Young for several days recently.

The Nickle Store occupies the same old stand, Call and see

The mammoth establishment of J. P. Crouch & Co. is packed with a mammoth stock. This is the largest business, both in space and completeness of stock, in North Texas. If you do not wish to buy it would more than repay a visit made for no other purpose than merely that of inspection and sightseeing.

Mesdames T. A. McClenny of Kaufman and G. R. Wear of Sherman are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Thomas, 3 miles southwest of McKinney.

Awarded
Highest Honors—World's Fair,
DR.
PRICE'S
CREAM
BAKING
POWDER
MOST PERFECT MADE.
A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.
40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

Born—on the 27th inst to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lawrence, a baby boy. The Democrat tenders congratulations to Arthur, who was formerly one of its employes.

Miss Gradie Bogan who is teaching at Heardsville spent Christmas with her mother here.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Parker of Sherman were guests of relatives here last week.

J. T. Branch is erecting a new residence for Abe Enloe three miles south of McKinney.

Mrs. G W. Taylor of Waxahachie is the guest of her mother, Mrs. Wade of the Wade hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Johnson of Royse City were guests of their daughter, Mrs. S. H. Cole, here last week.

Miss Florence Lemon left last week on a visit to relatives and friends at Dandridge, Jefferson county, Tenn.

Patent Star Oil for harness, saddles shoes and buggy tops makes a fine dressing strickly water proof. Manufactured by H. T. Brantley. Sold by Wallace & Everett, druggists; also at Central wagon yard, McKinney, Tex.

Henry Warden, one of Denton's liverymen, spent a few days the guest of his parents Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Warden, in McKinney last week.

Captain Sweeney. U. S. A., San Diego, Cal., says: "Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy is the first medicine I have ever found that would do me any good." Price 50 cents. For sale by c. C Provine. 2

On the 24th inst A. H. Barrett mailed a petition of 112 signers to the second postmaster general at Washington asking that a postoffice be established at the Ellis gin, seven miles northeast of McKinney.

Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup is sold lor only fifty cents a bottle. It will cure a cough that might prove serious or perhaps fatal. Ask your druggist for a sample bottle. Manufactured by A. C. Simmons, Jr., Medicine Company, Sherman, Texas.

Miss Bessie Reeding of Mineola is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cooper.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Bowlby and daughter, Miss Amy, of Sherman are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Mayhew.

W. H. Hicks, teacher of Beck Branch school, and J. R. Hagins of the same community were in McKinney Wednesday.

Are you made miserable by Indigestion, Constipation, Dizziness, Loss of Appetite, Yellow Skin? Shiloh.s Vitalizer is a positive cure. For sale by C-C. Provine. 2

Ed Thomas has completed a thorough business course in one of the leading commercial schools of the state and returned to McKinney.

HELP! HELP!! HELP!!!—Everybody are carrying off our groceries. We want you to help the good work along.
Goostree & Houston.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Thompson and little daughter, Francis, spent Christmas with Sherman relatives.

Work first class and rates cheaper than anywhere else in Texas at the City Dye Works.

C. E. Obenchain, the piano tuner, came in from the east to spend the holidays with relatives in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Martin arrived last week from the west. They will again make their home in Collin

The best cough cure is Shiloh's cure. A neglected cough is dangerous. Stop it at once with Shiloh's Cure. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

R. L. Reed and family of Denton county spent Christmas with relatives at Viney Grove.

The old reliable Star Restaurant is still doing business at the same old stand in Bingham block, McKinney, Tex. Thompson Bros., Props.

Miss Mollie Eubanks was the guest of Mrs. Jesse Shain last week and attended the Christmas ball.

Why leave your rooms bare? You can buy wall paper from 5c a roll up at City Drug Store

Miss Cora Cummins was the guest of her brother, E. C. Cummins and family, in Ennis last week.

Big Bargains.

In wall paper and paints for 30 days to reduce stock at City Drug Store.

Harry White and Gerard Foote are spending the holiday vacation in this city. The former with his parents, and the latter with relatives and friends of his old home.

Thompson Bros. are proprietors of the Star Restaurant and run the most popular catering house in McKinney.

Miss Sallie Andrews has returned from Chicago.

The old reliable City Dye Works s the place to have your soiled clothe cleaned and repressed. Rates reasonable and work guaranteed.

Miss Alice Doman of Abilene is the guest of friends in McKinney, her former home.

Uriah Jones, Hezekiah Brown and John Peter Smith will testify to the wonderful curative properties of Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup. Sample bottles free. Satisfaction or money refunded.

County Clerk Walden is recreating in Florida.

"My baby had croup and was saved by Shiloh's Cure," writes Mrs. J. B. Martin, of Huntsville, Ala. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

The Collin County Milling company's office up town has been removed from the Johnson block to rooms up stairs over Dr. J. P. Webster's store.

Mules For Sale.

Ten work mules, four years old past, for sale cheap; half cash, balance 12 months time. Call on John Martin, 6 miles northeast of McKinney.

Miss Estelle Lansdale came up from Dallas to spend the holidays here with relatives.

The City Dye Works has now been in McKinney several years and its trade is still increasing. Give them a call when you have an old suit to be cleaned and pressed.

Miss Foncie Rogers entertained a number of her young friends Monday evening at her parent's residence on South Wilcox street.

Consumption can be cured by the use of Shiloh's Cure. This great Cough Cure is the only known remedy for that terrible disease. For sale by c. C. Provine. 2

One of McKinney's business men and a school teacher had a lively scrap on the east side of the square Saturday.

Mrs. B. W. Rhine and children are spending the holidays with relatives at Paris.

Tom Davis formerly one of the Mississippi store's popular clerks spent Christmas here. Tom is now with the Geo. Murphy dry goods establishment in Sulphur Springs.

DEATHS.

The remains of W. M. Williams were shipped here from SanAntonia and interred in the Pecan Grove cemetery Sunday evening with Knights of Pythias honors. The deceased was for many years a member of the firm of Howard & Williams in the saloon business in McKinney. Nearly two years ago he removed to San Antonio where he engaged in business and died after a short illness. He had many warm personal friends in this city and county.

MRS. A. S. Hurt died in Weatherford on the 28th at the advanced age of 81. The deceased was the grandmother of MRS. Judge Garnett of this city. Her remains were shipped here and interred in Pecan Grove cemetery Tuesday Dec. 29 at 3 p. m.

MRS. S. E. Hill died at the residence of her son-in-law, J. G. Mathews, in this city Tuesday evening, Dec. 29. For the past six months Grandma Hill, who was in her 79th year, has been in failing health and death was not unexpected. She was the wife of the late R. M. Hill and the mother of 13 children, 9 of whom survive her. For 55 years the deceased was a faithful member of the Missionary Baptist church, and a kind, loving mother and neighbor. A large cortege of sorrowing relatives and friends followed the remains to Pecan Grove cemetery where she was gently laid to rest the next evening at 3 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Robertson conducted the funeral ceremonies.

Saturday morning as Uncle Tom Rattan, one of the earliest and best known citizens of Collin county, was preparing to drive to McKinney with his son, Hamp, in a buggy he was suddenly stricken down with heart failure and died instantly. The deceased was one of a large family of children of whom only one, Mrs. Mary Fitzhugh of McKinney, now survives. He was a brother-in law of the late ex-Gov. J. W. Throckmorton and leaves a wife, several children and many relatives to mourn his death. Funeral, monday, from the family residence near Melissa and interment at the old Throckmorton cemetery. In the death of this honored old pioneer The Democrat feels keenly the loss of a true friend and constant reader, and we join the wide circle of acquaintances in extending condolence to the relatives in this sad and sudden visitation of death to their household.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss
LUCAS COUNTY.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

SWORN to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON,
NOTARY PUBLIC.

{SEAL}

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucuous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Mrs. R. S. W Parker, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. T. J. Nale, left Monday to join her husband at Ft. Worth. Mr. Parker was formerly editor of the Ardmorite at Ardmore, I. T.

Save Your Life

By using "THE NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the Kidneys, Bladder and Back in male or female. It relieves retention of water, and pain in passing it almost immediately. Save yourselves by using this marvelous cure. Its use will prevent fatal consequences in almost all cases by its great alterative and healing powers. Sold by Erwin & Fant, druggists, McKinney, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Davis gave a family dining at their residence on College Hill Tuesday. Mrs. Joe Moore, of the Indian Territory, who came to Texas with the host and hostess many years ago from Alabama, was also present.

You run no risk! All dealers sell GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC on a positive guarantee NO CURE NO PAY. Delightful to take. Price 50c. 3

Miss Jimmie Moore of Van Alstyne is the guest of McKinney friends.

A cough is an easy thing to cure if taken in time. It is dangerous to neglect one any length of time. Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup is guaranteed. Fifty cents a bottle.

Dr. J. P. Webster is at San Antonio on a joint visit to his son, Van, and a business errand.

English Spavin Liniment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Blemishes from horses, Blood Spavins, Curbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring-Bone, Stifles, Sprains, all Swollen Throats, etc. Save $50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful Blemish Cure ever known. Sold by Erwin & Fant, druggists, McKinney, Texas.

Prof. A. C. Thompson spent a pleasant Christmas in Sherman.

Willie Mack of Henry College, Campbell, Texas, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Mack in this city.

Plant an Orchard

Before you plant, send for *New Catalogue of McKinney Nurseries*. This catalogue names the varieties adapted to this climate and gives instructions showing how to have, without failing, an abundance of fine fruit in any locality. These instructions are based upon forty years of experience in growing fruit in Texas, and include and refer to the latest and most advanced thought on Southern horticulture. Send to
E. W. KIRKPATRICK,
McKinney, Tex.

Mrs. J. L. Harper and children spent Christmas with Plano relatives.

Nerves

Are the Messengers of Sense,—the Telegraph System of the human body.

Nerves extend from the brain to every part of the body and reach every organ.
Nerves are like fire—good servants but hard masters.
Nerves are fed by the blood and are therefore like it in character.
Nerves will be weak and exhausted if the blood is thin, pale and impure.
Nerves will surely be strong and steady if the blood is rich, red and vigorous.
Nerves find a true friend in Hood's Sarsaparilla because it makes rich, red blood.
Nerves do their work naturally and well,—the brain is unclouded, there are no neuralgic pains, appetite and digestion are good, when you take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills the best family cathartic and liver stimulant. 25c.

Ed & Will's Tonsorial Parlor.

When you wish an easy shave—
As good as barber ever gave—
Call at Ed & Will's Tonsorial room,
At morning, eve. or busy noon.
They'll curl and cut your hair with grace
To suit the contour of your face.
Their room is neat, and all is clean,
Scissors sharp and razors keen,
And all that art and skill can do;
If you will call they'll do for you.
They'll treat you nice and fair,
And neither flinch nor fudge;
You'll always find them there
As sober as a judge.
Children's hair cutting a specialty. Northwest corner of square. McKinney, Texas.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Miss Alice Kirkpatrick who is attending the state university at Austin is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Kirkpatrick, in this city during the holidays.

I was nervous, tired, irritable and cross. Karl's Clover Root Tea has made me well and happy.
MRS. E. B. WORDEN.
For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

What is it? A cure for Coughs, Colds, Croup, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, and all Bronchial Affections of the Throat, Chest and Lungs. 50 doses for 50 cents. Money returned if it fails to give satisfaction, we mean Dr. Simmons' Cough Syrup.

Miss Nola Barnes has returned to her home in Ardmore, I. T., after an extended visit to relatives in this city and county.

Pills do not cure constipation. They only aggravate. Karl's Clover Root Tea gives perfect regularity of the bowels. For sale by C. C. Provine. 2

MARRIED—Ray C. Tucker and Miss Ella M. Ragsdale were united in the bonds of matrimony by Rev. J. H. Davis, pastor of the Presbyterian church, at the Manse at 7 p. m. Wednesday, Dec. 23. Both the contracting parties reside here.

Hall's Great Discovery.

One small bottle of Hall's Great Discovery cures all kidney and bladder troubles, removes gravel, cures diabetes, seminal emissions, weak and lame backs, and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder, in both men women. Regulates bladder trouble in children. If not sold by your druggist will be sent by mail on receipt of $1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and will cure any case above mentioned.

E. W. HALL, Sole Manufacturer,
P. O. Box 317, Waco, Texas

READ THIS.

Sherman, Tex., Aug. 17.

I certify that I have used Hall's Great Discovery in my family and I can recommend it to the public.
A. L. STRONG.

Sold by Smith Bros.

Will Cloyd, of Greenville, was mingling with friends on our streets Tuesday.

Jovial Frank Hibbits, a north side barber, received a lovely christmas present in the shape of a fine girl baby, which arrived at his home Thursday morning.

A retired merchant, and by the way a silent poet, wrote the following and gave to The Democrat reporter:
To the goose and the gander
That come from way "yander"
To bring beds of ease
For the children among the trees
In this the greatest nation
In all civilization
The land of the brave
And their offspring to save.
—Dunk'erdorm.

CASTORIA.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

Jim Throckmorton is in town.

RELIGIOUS.

Rev. Joel S. Graves preached a Christmas sermon at Wilson's chapel.

The endeavor societies of this city held a union sunrise praise meeting at the Christian church Christmas morning. The attendance was good and each participant strengthened spiritually. The meeting was led by Plummer Harris.

The subject of the morning's discourse at the Cumberland Presbyterian church next Sunday will be "Second Coming of Christ." The night services are usually conducted in the interest of the unconverted and everybody is cordially invited. Excellent music will be rendered.

Eld. S. W. Crutcher preached his farewell sermon at the Christian church in McKinney Sunday morning. It was also the ordination sermon of his son, J. N. Crutcher. His text was Exodus 25:40 for a very impressive, earnest sermon. At night J. N. Crutcher preached his first sermon after ordination to an attentive congretion. Although but a young man of 21 MR. Crutcher has been called to the pastorate of the Purcell, I. T., church and gives promise of a ministerial life of eminent distinction.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

Beginning Monday next all denominations of Christians are invited to unite in a "week of prayer." Services will be held on Monday Jan. 4, at the Methodist church. Subject for prayer and discussion—"Humiliation and Thanksgiving." Confession—Psalm 25: 1-18. Joel 2:12-14. Thanksgiving—Psalm 103: 1-6 106: 1-9 145: 1-9. Eph. 1: 3-7.

Tuesday, Jan. 5, at Christian church. Subject—"The Church Universal. 1 Cor. 12: 12-27. Acts 2: 1-18. 1 John 1: 3-7. Mat. 13; 31-33.

Wednesday Jan. 6, at the Baptist church. Subject—"Nations and their Rulers." Mat. 5: 9. Prov. 23: 29-35. Rom. 13: 1-7. Is. 2: 4. Acts 17: 26. Psalm 133.

Thursday Jan. 7, at the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Subject—"Foreign Missions." Rev. 11: 15. Mat. 28: 18-20. Mat. 5: 10-13. Isa. 35.

Friday Jan. 8, at the Presbyterian church. Subject—"Home Missions." Isa. 65: 17 25. Luke 24: 46-46. Luke 10: 1-2. Luke 14: 23.

Saturday Jan. 9, at the Methodist church. Subject—"Families and Homes" Col. 3: 14-25. Deut. 11: 18-21. Joel 2: 28-29.

Sunday Jan. 10, at the Presbyterian church. A special sermon on foreign missions will be preached by the pastor, Rev. J. H. Davies.

All are invited to participate in these services.

Red Men.

Hunting Grounds, McKinney, Tex.: Hiawatha Tribe No 22 met in council on the 30th sun, 8th run and 30th breath, great sun discovery 405, and proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year as follows: J. H. Walton, sachem; F. M. Griffin, Sr. sagamon; S. Wiseman, Jr. sagamon; Martin Gerrish, chief of records; Walter B. Wilson, collector of wampum; Ike Swartz, keeper of wampum; G. R. Smith, prophet; Dr. J. T. Taylor, representative to the great council; H. F. Hibbits, trustee.

Marriage Bells.

Recorded in the county clerk's office for week ending Sat. Dec. 26, 1896.
James Stallenger and Miss Fanny Kenney,
B F Doggett and Miss Virginia Bledsoe,
F A Cherry and Mrs Annie Jordan,
W A Stanley and Miss Mattie Huguley,
R L Cowan and Miss M J Baxter,
K P Bell and Miss Bettie Sneathen.
G H Stone and Miss Nora Woodall,
Jesse Howard and Miss Clara Weger,
A S Justice and Miss L A Ham,
Ben Smith and Miss Rosa Stubblefield,
James M Thompson and Miss M A Zachary,
E H Cayce and Miss Susie Brown,
Roy C Tucker and Miss Ella M Ragsdale,
F L Perry and Miss Emma Fields,
A R Boad and Miss R C Marney,
J R Pullen and Miss Cassie Wood,
S M Beasley and Miss Florence Young,
A F Franklin and Miss Susie Crump,
J E Stiff and Miss Minnie L Evans.
Henry Kelley and Miss Linnie Spradley
F A Jenkins and Miss Ollie L Walker,
L S Anderson and Miss Rosettie Hart,
G W F Kirkland and Miss Effie Van-Burkle.
L S Anderson and Miss M L Cox.

If you find the slightest fault in a pair of BUCKSKIN BREECHES, back they go. We don't want any of our pants to be one stitch the wrong side of best. We put a guarantee in the pocket of each pair—if you find a fault in them or any other make as good or better, you can have your money back.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sneed, of St. Louis, arrived in McKinney last week and are now the guests of the latter's parents, Assistant Postmaster and Mrs. Bagley. They may reside here permanently in the future as Mr. Sneed, who is a commercial traveler, has been given Texas for his territory.

WANTED IN MCKINNEY—By his brother, S. Goldberg, light complected Jewish pedler who is somewhere in Collin county.

The following young ladies of the Sherman schools were the guests of friends in McKinney last week as they passed through en route to their homes in Farmersville: Misses Lyda Honaker, Annie Bumpass, Bessie Bell, Willie Hubbard and Eva Cook. The hostesses were Miss Helen Knighton and Mrs. H. H. Crouch.

A public debate of the single tax question will take place at Cross Roads school house Friday night, Jan. 8. E. C. Forbes and Solomon Dorn will affirm and W. W. Jones and E. G. Howard will deny.

We know of but one community in the world where dyspepsia is practically unknown, and that is the Shakers of Mount Lebanan, N. Y. These good people have been studying the subject of digestion for more than a hundred years, and that they understand it pretty thoroughly is evidenced in the foregoing fact. Their Digestive Cordial is the safest and best remedy for in cases of indigestion that we know of. A trial bottle can be had through your druggists for the trifling sum of 10 cents.

The Shaker Digestive Cordial supplies the system with food already digested, and at the same time aids the digestion of other foods. It will almost instantly relieve the ordinary symptoms of indigestion, and no sufferer need to be told what these are.

LAXOL is the best medicine for children Doctors recommend it in place of Castor Oil.

Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Mathis entertained a number of young friends at their residence at Rock Hill on the evening of the 26th inst. Several from McKinney and Plano were present.

You can't be well if your blood is impure, but you may have pure blood and good health by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Miss Lena Gazette, of Van Alstyne, visited here briefly, Saturday, while en route to her father's home in Greenville.

J. T. Couch, the organ and piano dealer, is in St. Louis on business.

While indulging in the sport of setting off fireworks the little son of Tom Davis, living 8 miles west of McKinney, met with a serious accident Christmas morning in the premature explosion of a large fire cracker by which his left hand was terribly mangled. The little fellow was brought to town and Dr. A. T. Bryant, who dressed the wounds, found it necessary to amputate three of his fingers.

Mrs. Gullett will have a one story brick business house erected at once on the site of the burned building recently occupied by J. W. Asbury's furniture establishment. It will be occupied by Thompson Bros. with their restaurant, and in addition they will conduct a first class bakery.

To Piano Owners.

Mr. C. E. Obenchain came in for the holidays and will remain in McKinney until January 15. He will begin tuning pianos on the first and all desiring work will be called on.

Fairfield school dismissed Wednesday for Christmas with a treat of apples and candy to the pupils. The school reopened Monday and seems to be in a very flourishing condition under the management of Pro. W. L. Yarbrough, assisted by Miss Maggie Stewart.

The matrimonial market was unusually brisk christmas eve. Quite a number of intended grooms armed themselves with the coveted papers and sped away to their fair loves in different sections of the county where they reside. Two couples however were pronounced man and wife immediately after their permits were issued them in the county clerk's office. They were J. E. Stiff and Miss Minnie L. Evans, and C. C. Connally and Mrs. E. A. Hubbard. Judge Abernathy spoke the words that made the first couple one and Eld. Jno. M. McKinney officiated for the other.

LIST OF LETTERS.

Remaining unclaimed in the postoffice, at McKinney, Tex. Dec. 24, '96, which, if unclaimed in two weeks, will be sent to Dead Letter Office at Washington, D. C.

LADIES.

Applebee Matty	Richmond Mollie
Byren Gemima	Sebring Clem
Crutcher Mary	Summers Effa
Fraze Annie	Spencer Lula
Holms Jane	Sanders Phebe
Ken E N	Veller Florence
Marah Myrtle	Wells Ellere
Nelson J G	Price A G

GENTLEMEN.

Allen W P	Higgins Sarah
Clay J R	Hornbeak Mr
Caney Thadie	Robinson Willie
Cox A W	Stubblefield George
Davis Jasper	Ussery Thamas T
Dicton Ben	Walker Van
Fergason J T	Williams W L
Gibson James	Hope A J
Hampton M M	

Persons calling for letters on this list must say "advertised" or they may fail to get them.
MRS. M. A. CAMERON,
Postmisstress.

CASTORIA.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

Teachers' Institute.

The next teachers' institute will be held in the public school building Saturday, Jan. 9, 1897. All teachers are expected to attend.

PROGRAM OF WORK.

Pedagogics: The December Number of Educational Foundations, 9:45 to 10:30; J. R. Hendrix, Edwin Booth and J. W. Russell.

Descriptive Geography: South America, with map, 10:30 to 11:15; C. C. Cross, Miss Dora Nichols and J. H. Bennett.

Algebra: Division and factoring, 11:15 to 12:00; F. G. Jones, G. A. Tallant and Tom Hogge.

NOON.

Arithmetic: G. C. D. and L. C. M., 1 to 1:45; Miss Laura Wakefield, W. L. Roper, and T. C. Andrews.

Physics: Attraction, 1:45 to 2:30; I. A. Armstrong, G. P. Gadberry, and J. W. Miller.

Physiology: The Skin, Respiration and Voice, 2:30 to 3:15; S. J. Cresswell, I. N. Robinson and W. H. Razzor.

W. W. SHEPHERD, Co. Supt.
MISS MAGGIE LEDDY, Secy.

H. G. Reed,
G. P. Brown,
C. O. Smith,
C. C. Cross,
Miss Dora Nichols.
} Com.

COL. JOHN R. FELLOWS, prominent in New York politics, his creed coming under the head of that which now fits so many brainy lawyers—that of an obedient slave to the dictates of the money power—died in New York last Monday. It is sad to say so, but such funerals now, Texas Farmer thinks, is according to the fitness of things. We want to hear of many more such.—Texas Farmer.

We do not sympathize with the gold standard views of the late Col. Fellows, but our nature revolts at exulting over the death of a political opponent, though he be a "gold bug." Farmer Shaw and the free silver democratic press, which has not censured the above editorial, may revel in such ectasy, but we will cringe for our country's future if such vindictive partisan prejudice ever gains ascendency.

It is said that a newly elected neighborhood justice of the peace was presiding in a case where a man was up for beating his wife. The attorney for the man saw that the justice knew nothing about the law and so informed him. "Mr. Constable," said the justice, laying down his brass-rimmed spectacles heavily, "take the lawyer to jail for ten days, give the woman a divorce, lick the husband and bring in a jug of liquor."—Wylie Rustler.

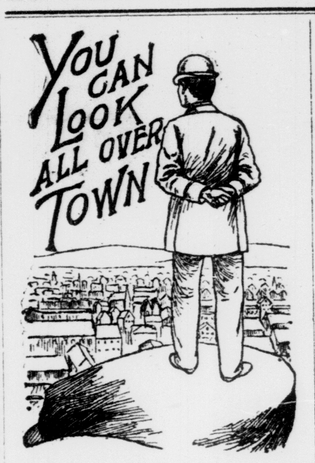
This is the first intimation that such a case had been before his honor, Esq. Perkins.

Headed for the Star Restaurant, Wilson's Old Stand, where I get plenty of tender beef cooked in any manner with meals or lunches.

We wish
You
A Happy and
Prosperous
New Year.

SMITH BROS

Prescription
Druggists.



But you cannot find a more complete line of groceries, staple or fancy, than ours and our prices are rock bottom.
Respectfully,
GOOSTREE & HOUSTON.

A train plunged from the Cahaba bridge, 30 miles from Memphis, Tenn., on the 27th inst. to the rocks below, a distance of more than 100 feet. Twenty passengers were killed. It is supposed that fiends in human form removed a rail which caused the fearful plunge.

Constitutional Changes.

Verona, Tex.

The constitution is the people's safeguard; it is their fortification against vicious legislation. If this fortification needs repairing, the people, who are to be protected by it, should be allowed to repair it. The fact that the constitution limits, or should limit, the power of congress, makes it highly improper that congress should have anything to do with framing it. These fundamental laws are not to protect our legislative bodies against the people, but to protect our people against the legislative bodies. Then our people, and not the legislative bodies, should be allowed to amend them. This power should be removed far from all conventions or legislative bodies, because it has been repeatedly demonstrated that these assemblies have been, and may again be, influenced by things that don't concern the people.

I would not be in favor of direct legislation on minor questions, but I am in favor of a change in the constitution that will allow the people to make other changes by a direct vote of the masses. To avoid easy vibrations in the constitution, it should require something like three-fifths of the votes cast to change it, and it should be further required that the said three-fifths be a majority of the Union.

Give us a constitutional change like this, and free silver would not be two paces behind it, government ownership of railroads would be in sight, and this country would again soon have a government of the people, by the people and for the people. To restore the government to the people is to gain all needed reforms, because they would naturally follow.

There is a right way to go about getting this much needed reform and a wrong way to try to get it. The right way is for all who are interested to meet like brothers, blot out their old party names, take a new one, and go to work like true men fighting solely for principle.

The wrong way to try to get it is for one faction of our people to be so mean as to try to make, or even want, the other faction to humble and take its party name. The restoration of the government to the people is of too much importance to be handicapped by old party names or side issues, and until it is gained, all true reformers should rally under a name that would indicate their high purpose, and make that demand the single bone of contention. Once bring it to the front and it will be a ton[illegible] whereas the free silv[illegible] is only a zephyr[illegible]

WE OFFER FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ONLY

SPECIAL PRICES ON MEN'S WHITE

Dress and Negligee Shirts

AT THE FOLLOWING LOW FIGURES:

750 $1.50 AND $2.00 SHIRTS AT $1.09.
500 $1.25 SHIRTS AT 89 CENTS.
550 75C AND $1.00 SHIRTS AT 49 CENTS.
2000 COLLARS AT 5 CENTS EACH.

We Will also add to this Special Sale the Excellent line of Zeigler Bros. Men's and Chilren's

SHOES

AT ALMOST HALF VALUE.

150 Pairs of Our $1.50 to $3.25 Shoes, Size 12 to 2, will go at $1.39.
157 Pairs, Regular Price $1.50 to $2.50 7 to 12 will be cut to $1.19.
106 Pairs 6 to 9 $1.50 to $2.75 will go at $1.19. 73 pr Infant 0 to 5 15c.
52 Pairs 5 to 8, worth 85 cents to $1.25, go these two days at 64c.

We have the goods at prices no house can cut to and you are loser when you miss these bargains. Yours truly,

McDOWELL & WH[illegible]

WEST SIDE OF SQUARE.

You will find one coupon inside each two ounce bag and two coupons inside each four ounce bag of Blackwell's Durham. Buy a bag of this celebrated tobacco and read the coupon—which gives a list of valuable presents and how to get them.

GALVESTON Business University

Absolutely Thorough. Only High-Grade Training School of Business and Bookkeeping, Shorthand and Typewriting, Penmanship and English in Texas. Faculty of Expert Specialists. Finest Penman on earth. Stationery and books, and good board (with Presidents) at cost. Expenses low and payable monthly. 3 months $56; 6 months $104. $150,000 building with elegant banking and office fixtures. Most delightful climate on earth. Bath houses for surf bathing free. Reference, any bank or firm in Galveston. New catalogue and penmanship instructor free.

J. F. SMITH, President and Founder.

LIGHT BRAHMAS.

I am now prepared to furnish a limited number of settings of eggs from these famous winter layers, at

$2.00 PER SETTINGOF 13.

I have secured the best specimens of the breed, and can now show birds in my yard of the great Felch and Griswold strains. Have no other breed on my place.

During the past year my birds have won a number of prizes: "ISAAC," imported by me direct from Felch, won first at Galveston: score 93½. I have also added another fine bird—OLD CHIEF"—to my yard. I purchased him from Randolph, at Austin. He has rarely ever failed to win first in the show ring.

J. S. DOWELL.

McKinney, Texas.

Young stock now for sale. 49

ON ITS OWN RAIL

THE MK AND T

MISSOURI, KANSAS & TEXAS RAILWAY

TRAINS ON THE MISSOURI, KANSAS & TEXAS RAILWAY

Now Run Solid

TO

Louis

[illegible]

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WITH

PALACE BUFFET SLEEPING

AND

FREE CHAIR CARS

DINING STATIONS OPERATED BY THE COMPANY.

SUPERIOR MEALS 50 CENTS

IRON MOUNTAIN ROUTE.

For the

North and East,

Via

MEMPHIS OR ST. LOUIS,

In Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars.

This is the Short and Quick Line,

And

HOURS ARE SAVED

By Purchasing Your Tickets via This Route.

For further information, apply to Ticket Agents of Connecting Lines, or to

J. C. Lewis, Traveling Pass'r Agent, Austin, Tex.

H. C. TOWNSEND, G. P. and T. A., ST. LOUIS.

A Busy Man's Train.

Is the new "Cotton Belt" through connection from Texas to Louisville, Cincinnati, Chicago and the North and East via Memphis and the Great Illinois Central Railway system, putting passengers into all these cities in the morning with but one day spent on the road or lost from business.

Leave Texas at night, after arranging your affairs, in a luxurious Pullman sleeper at a reasonable hour, and arrive the second [illegible] destination in time to [illegible] business of the day. [illegible]ey to you it will [illegible]ate this. Ask [illegible]ket Agent for [illegible]

[illegible]eral Passen[illegible]r Passen[illegible]ers.

TEXAS

EL PASO T AND P ROUTE PACIFIC

OFFERS THE PUBLIC THE

Best Passenger Service

BETWEEN

TEXAS

AND

THE E ST

SOUTHEAST

Cannon Ball Train

SHORTENED ONE HOUR IN TIME

Leaves Fort Worth 7:05 a. m. Dallas 8:05 a. m. Union Depot 8:15 a. m.

Arrives St. Louis 7:25 a. m next day.

LIMITED EVENING EXPRESS

HAS BEEN QUICKENED

9 Hours to St. Louis and The East

4 Hours to Memphis.

One Hour to New Orleans.

ONLY TWO DAYS

BETWEEN

Texas and New York.

Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars to St. Louis, Chicago, New Orleans and Pacific Coast.

Through day Coaches each way between Fort Worth and Memphis.

See your nearest Ticket Agent for further information or write

W. A. DASHIEL,

Traveling Passenger Ag't. Dallas, Tex.

L. S. THORNE, Third Vice-Pres. & Gen'l. Mgr.

GASTON MESLIER, Gen. Pass. & Ticket Agent.

DALLAS, TEXAS

QUEEN & CRESCENT ROUTE

NEW ORLEANS & NORTH EASTERN R R

ALABAMA & VICKSBURG RY.

VICKSBURG, SHREVEPORT & PACIFIC R R

VIA

SHREVEPORT OR . . .

NEW ORLEANS

TO

Vicksburg, Jackson, Meridian, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Asheville, Atlanta, Cincinnati, and New York, and to all points

NORTH, EAST, NORTHEAST - - - SOUTHEAST.

SOLID VESTIBULED TRAINS.

FAST TIME.

CLOSE CONNECTION.

THROUGH SLEEPERS.

[illegible]on your nearest Ticket Agent for [illegible]rther information, or address,

[illegible] Hunt, T. P. A., Dallas, Texas.

R. H. Garratt, A. G. P. A., New Orleans, La.

I. Hardy, G P A. New Orleans, La.

GOOD NEWSPAPERS

at a Very Low Price.

The Semi-Weekly News (Galveston or Dallas) is published Tuesdays and Fridays Each issue consists of 8 pages. There are special departments for the farmers, the ladies and the boys and girls, besides a world of general news matter, illustrated articles, etc. We offer

THE SEMI WEEKLY NEWS

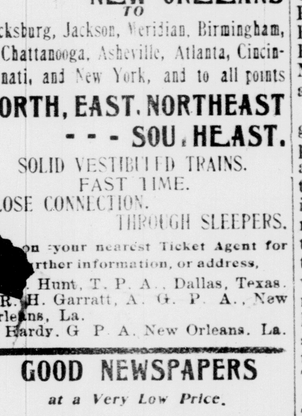
and

THE DEMOCRAT

for 12 months for the low clubbing price of $1.75 cash. This gives you three papers a week, or 156 papers a year, for a ridiculously low price ...and in you subscription at once.

BATTLE WON BY THE INSURGENTS.

General Gomez leads in person and routs the Spanish. Eight hundred Spanish killed and 1,000 wounded. The great victory is attributed to the fact that the insurgents have discovered that Dr. Sawyer's Family Cure gives new life and strength and purifies the blood.



MRS. S. A. HATHAWAY.

Having been treated by the best physicians, I went to the hospital at the corner of Wood and York Streets, Chicago, and grew worse. I weighed 90 pounds and began to use the Pastilles and gained 45 lbs. I can scarcely express the facts by saying that Dr. Sawyer's Pastilles for diseases peculiar to women saved my life.

Mrs. S. A. Hathaway

185 Schuyler Ave., Kankakee, Ill.

A written guarantee to cure or money refunded with every box. Price $1.00 per box.

Dr. Sawyer's Family Cure cures indigestion, biliousness, kidney difficulty and purifies the blood. A written guarantee to cure or money refunded with every dollar bottle Prices, $1.00, 50c. and 25c.

Sold by Smith Bros.

NORTHEAST OF DALLAS.

The Solid Old Town of Farmersville. Early History and Progress.

(DALLAS NEWS.)

The old town of Farmersville is fifteen miles above Wylie and thirty-seven miles from Dallas. Farmersville came by its name naturally, having originated as a mere village of small farmers in the midst of one of the most productive portions of the fertile black land county of Collin. It is now a flourishing little black land city of about 1700 inhabitants, and the crossing point of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe and the Sherman, Shreveport and Southern railways. It is sixteen miles east of McKinney, the county seat, which is also the present western terminus of the Sherman, Shreveport and Southern road. Greenville is the same distance east of Farmersville, sixteen miles, that McKinney is west.

The Sherman, Shreveport and Southern railroad, extending now from Jefferson to McKinney, was chartered twenty or more years ago as the East Line and Red River railroad. It reached Farmersville in 1882, giving quite an impetus to the growth of the little village. The Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe arrived in 1886, still further enhancing the growth and general importance of the town. The following business enterprises are in operation here, namely:

A national bank of $50,000 capital, some dozen grocery stores, eight dry goods and clothing houses, four drug stores, a hardware and implement house, a hardware store exclusively, a book and stationery store, a saddle and harness store, a furniture store, a weekly newspaper, a meat market, a photograph gallery, a coal dealer, two livery stables, two jewelers, a hotel, four restaurants, a cotton yard and several cotton buyers.

All the business houses of Farmersville are substantial one and two-story bricks. An excellent public school building, a two-story brick, was erected three years ago at a cost of $17,000. The graded system prevails here, there being ten grades in the school, the eighth, ninth and tenth grades constituting the high school. A principal and four assistant teachers are employed, and the enrollment numbers over 450 pupils. The full term taught is ten months a year. This institution has a library of more than 100 volumes of standard literature, and others are being added. The school is also well supplied with physical apparatus, geographical and physiological charts, maps, globes, encyclopedias, etc., and offers as fine educational advantages as can be had in any high school.

The Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Cumberland Presbyterian and Christian churches all have good houses of worship. The Masons have a chapter and lodge here, one of the oldest in Collin county. The Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Knights and Ladies of Honor, American Legion and Mystic Circle have lodges here also.

The Farmersville Times is a good all-home-print local newspaper. It is a five-column quarto and is nearing the close of its twelfth year. James W. Crayton is editor. In addition to the business enterprises heretofore mentioned, Farmersville also has, in the way of industrial concerns, a well equipped fifty-ton cotton oil mill. It was started in 1892 and has done a prosperous business since its establishment. A bottling works is also operated. There are three good cotton gins with corn mills in connection. Their aggregate capacity is 100 bales a day. Farmersville also has the long distance telephone connection.

The town ships annually from 10,000 to 12,000 bales of cotton, a great deal of corn, considerable oats, and a few cars of cattle and hogs.

Early history—The News is indebted to the Farmersville Times for the following historical facts:

"The first settlements were made in this portion of Collin county about the year 1849, four years after the annexation of Texas. Among the pioneers who settled in this vicinity in the fall of that year were Moses Jones, Walter Yeary, John Haven and Hugh Gotcher. By the end of 1853 a number of settlers had moved into the neighborhood.

"The first village or trading point of this settlement had the saccharine cognomen of Sugar Hill, a point two and one-half miles north of the present point of Farmersville. Sugar Hill was founded in the latter part of 1852 or early in 1853. It had only one small store, in which, according to a local historian, the sale of 'red licker' predominated and it was a pretty tough place. Here sugar, salt, tobacco and 'bug juice' were retailed.

"On Sunday, Dec. 25, 1853," continues the same historian, "a general row occurred in the grocery store, resulting in a tragedy, by which three men lost their lives. The other participants immediately left the country, Sugar Hill was soon abandoned, the site of the village and its name being changed to Farmersville."

Farmersville (the successor of Sugar Hill) was located in 1854. The town site was selected on account of a good spring which flows from the bank of a small branch near where the oil mill now stands. The land then belonged to William Gotcher. George Dollarhide bought an acre lot and built a log cabin upon it, which was the present residence of Farmersville. Mack Henslee built a little log cabin grocery store, the pioneer business house of the place, about 1855. Dr. S. G. Parsons erected a business house on the north side of the public square a little later on, and Peter Chisholm soon built the third. All of these early houses (and many that followed them) were constructed of native timber, the logs being hewn and 'notched down' and the roofing being of oak boards riven out with a mallet and frow. The cracks between the logs were either ceiled with long clapboards or daubed with clay and straw worked together into a sort of mortar or plaster. Up to the close of the war Farmersville was almost entirely a log cabin village.

CO-OPERATIVE MEETING

At Melissa—Twenty-five Accessions—Revivalist Burnett's Impressive Preaching.

Melissa, Tex., Dec. '96.

In response to your wish for an account of the great revival I can say without disparagement by contrast of the magnitude and importance of other similar revivals held at Melissa that the meeting held there last week was the greatest of them all.

The influx of members was not so great as I have seen on like occasions, there being only 25 accessions to the different denominations; 17 joining the Methodists. Joiners is not always the best test of a successful meeting. Much of the ingathering into the church depends on the men and women on the outside to draw from.

Again, the way in which the gospel is preached sometimes precludes an overflow. If the standard of moral rectitude is held above the ball room and peruna joint, above lying and swindling, short weight and measures, and that most abominable sin of all—the stink of avarice, the church of the living God is not much sought after. Such a gospel was presented last week by that wonderful man and preacher Rev. R. H. H. Burnett, intensely spiritual, colloquial in style, with the divine witchery of speech set upon a loosened and tuneful tongue he held the crowds spell bound. Burnett's ideas are grand; his rhetoric is pure. At times he would forget himself—his environments, and sweep aloft, bewitched by the gorgeous imagery set before his mind, while he walked amid the shimmering hosts of the sky. The occasion was a spiritual feast like the experience of Horeb. Love, the true test of character, and the spiritual barometer of every revival, like an intermingling stream flowed from heart to hear, and from home to home till the whole town was leavened by the spirit of Almighty grace. Such unanimity of spirit, such transparent kindness, brought forth a day in the history of Melissa, and high over-arched with the bow of peace will live in the hearts of all like the memory of the last sweet note of an Italian lute.

A little girl said to mother, "mama, did you know the church bell talks?" "No darling," responded the fond parent, "what does it say?" "When it rings for church it says come-come, come-come, come-come." Not long afterwards the husband and father of this happy home was called to cross the river. When the disconsolate widow and orphan child returned from the funeral to the desolate hearth to sob and brood in their lonely cottage, the streaming eyes of the petted child looked up into the woeful face of the widow and queried, "mama, the church bell does talk, but it don't always say come." "What did it say to-day my sweet little darling?" and she stroked back the disheveled curls that clustered upon the brow of her pale and sorrowing child. "To-day," said Mary, "when we went by the church to put papa in the grave the bell said, g-o-n-e, g-o-n-e, g-o-n-e." The preacher spoke in a monotone as he slowly pulled up and down an imaginary bell rope, as the sexton tolls the requiem of the dead. A lady said to me, "Bro. Graves, during that awful recital I could hardly get my breath."

The citizens of Melissa presented these faithful men with the neat sum of $86 in token of their appreciation.

At a service for women and children Sunday afternoon conducted by Bro. Vaughan, $20 was raised for a destitute widow. Much good was done. Bro. Burnett left the meeting Sunday night at floodtide. Allow me to say that no better people live than the good, generous people of Melissa. Every door and every purse contributed to our comfort. I would name a few: Rev. V. R. Stapp, Lou Scott, J. F. Gibson, Bro. Bateman, Frank Roberts, W. M. Erwin, Geo. Graves. Hogue Coffman and finally that broad-gauged christian philanthropist, T. E. Shirley.

JOEL S. GRAVES.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following is a list of real estate transfers filed for record in the county clerk's office at McKinney for week ending Saturday, Dec. 26, 1896:

Scott R M and wife to G F Bolton 56 acres, William Fitzhugh survey, $1820.

Mainner W H to R M Scott 56a William Fitzhugh sur, $1747.

Duncan E L and J T Marshall to L D McCaulay 25a in J W Foot sur and 25a in J Pennington sur, release.

Forman J C to P W Collier 197 42-100a Martha McBride sur, release.

Praler J F to J R Smith 50a, Abner Lee sur $1850.

Collin county to E C Shipley lot 5 sur 12 Collin county school land, $250 with 10 per cent int from 1877.

Morrison R L and wife to J C Stone 55a Daniel Herring sur, consideration 82½ a and 10a, both tracts in W C Ward sur.

Berryman Mrs Mary F to R L Morrison 55a E C Davidson sur, release.

Stone J E and wife to J C Stone 82½a and 10a both tracts in W C Ward sur, $3600.

Dobbs C to J C Stone assignee of G F Payne 92½ a W C Ward sur, release.

Stone J C to R L Morrison 92½ acres W C Ward sur, $3600.

Abbott S H and wife to J F Nichols 44¾a W H Hunt sur, $1566.25.

Runnels Riley et al to W N Bush 28½a T G Kennedy sur $669.25.

Jackson Robt to J W M Grabell 40a B Oliver sur, $1000.

Wilson Harriet to T B Wilson Jr 177½a E B Reed sur $1963.50.

Butler L and T O Phillips to Jno T Kendrick, 4 tracts, release.

Daugherty C C and wife to Lenora McMahan 550a W H Moore sur, love and affection.

Quisenberry R T and wife to Chas H Allen 16 6-10a M Tucker sur, $200.

Stone J C to T A McDonald 845-1000a A West sur, $42.25.

Wright J M and wife to F A McDonald 537-1000a A West sur, 56.90.

Bush Thos and wife to Amos Hugely 1a D M Tucker sur, $15.

Lewis Jones and wife to L W Bush 40a D M Tucker sur, 600.

Portman M C and wife to T C Jasper lot and three story brick business house in Plano, $5250.

Lockhart J L and wife to C C Gregory 70 a Thos Estes sur, $2062.50.

Abbott S H and wife to H H and R C Taylor 57¼a W H Hunt sur, and 5a in W W Bailey sur, $2000.

Shirley Andrew to J W Adams lots 4 and 5 block no 2 in town of Anna, $300.

Blankenship M A to Asa Blankenship 102a University land, $2000.

Condensed Communications.

Our correspondent from Culleoka writes:

That the store house of Mr. Morrow is near completion.

That Mr. Charley Renfrow was married to Miss Kate Stewart last Sunday, Rev. Cameron officiating.

That Snavely & McGraw have ginned 361 bales of cotton.

That Wiltie Harden and Bill McGraw have moved to their new home.

That Miss Maggie McCullock is visiting Mrs. Collis.

That Rev. Davies preached at Culleoka last Sunday.

That the schools are progressing nicely.

* * *

Our Merritt correspondent writes that the first quarterly conference will convene at Merritt on Dec. 26.

That Mr. John Owens and Miss Julia Yeary were married at Farmersville Wednesday night and that a party was given at the residence of Mr. Owens in honor of the young married couple, guests as follows: Mr. Ott Dickinson, Mr. Geo. Candler, Mr. Stanley Hackett, Miss Virginia Hamilton, Mr. William Hamilton, Miss Florence Utt, Miss Venia White, Mr. W. A. Shelton. A pleasant time was had.

* * *

Our Lebanon correspondent writes that Mr. Acker Chasten and Miss Sallie Gadberry were married at Lebanon last Sunday. The happy pair have many friends who congratulate them.

That Henry Kirkpatrick has moved to Fannin county.

That L. B. Garvin has purchased a farm in Denton county.

That there will be a Xmas tree at Bethany and Allen Thursday night.

That Bro. Morgan, pastor of Rowlett church, is suffering with trouble.

That Mes lames Sallie Dennard and Jno. Crowder visited Mrs. Emily Young last week.

CASTORIA.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Interesting Information Concerning New Year's Day.

The Mexicans celebrated New Year's day with human sacrifices.

Jan. 1 was made the beginning of the legal year in England in 1752.

Sweden did not adopt Jan. 1 as New Year's day until the year 1753.

The legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland took place on Jan. 1, 1801.

Jan. 1 was made New Year's day in France by royal edict in the year 1564.

On New Year's day in ancient Egypt there were processions in every temple.

The month of January is said to have been named by Numa Pompilius in 672 B. C.

The emancipation proclamation of Abraham Lincoln was issued Jan. 1, 1863.

The New Year in Sparta was celebrated by the consecration of youths to military service.

The American Indians had a sort of New Year's festival, celebrated with feasting and dancing.

In Siberia the state prisoners of the czar are allowed a rest and holiday on New Year's day.

In the sixteenth century the common New Year's gift of a tenant to his landlord was a fat capon.

The wassail ale of merry old England was made of ale, nutmeg, toast and roasted apples.

The present system of beginning the new year with Jan. 1 was adopted in Scotland A. D. 1600.—Selected.

The God of the Seasons.

On one of the seven hills of Rome there is a spot where it is said St. Peter was crucified, and over this spot is built a little temple in his honor. The hill upon which is reared this temple was named after Janus and called Janiculum—changed in these later days to Montorio, or Gold mountain. Janus founded a city, and after his death he became a god in the popular fancy. To him were dedicated temples for heathen worship. He was the god of the seasons and is generally represented with two faces—the one dark and gloomy, as an emblem of the history of past ages, the other bright and smiling, as a symbol of a promising future. Sometimes four faces are used, representing the four seasons of the year. In his hand he holds as many rods as there are months in the year, one of which bears his name, January. The temples erected to him had four doors and three windows each. The doors represented the seasons and the windows the three months in each season. Pictures of Janus are frequently used in decorating New Year cards, stories and magazines.—Exchange.

Creaming the Well.

In Banff and Aberdeen shires the custom of "creaming the well" at midnight is still observed. The water drawn then is used for washing the dairy utensils, and the cows also drink of it. This insures success in the dairy. Sometimes grass or moss is thrown on the water, indicative of prospective good crops.

All needlework, knitting and hand work of all kinds must be finished with the old year, or the mischievous members of the family put it up the chimney and blacken it. Much fun and laughter arise over some one's frantic efforts to make up for lost time, but all to no avail, for as the clock strikes 12 and the happy New Year's greetings are exchanged the unfinished task is seized and summarily disposed of.—Selected.

Scotch New Year Cakes.

Scotland has well been called the "Land o' Cakes," for nowhere else, Germany excepted, is there such variety of confectionery and pastry as in Scotland. The shortbread, often known as "pitcaithly bannocks," is highly ornamented with sugar and iced mottoes, "A Happy New Year" and a "Merrie Auld Yule." The rye loaves, popular in the northeastern counties, black and rich, filled with fruit and peel; the Scotch bun, composed entirely of eggs and chopped fruits and peel incased in a crust, which is not eaten, much the same as the English simnel cakes. Fancy tarts and pastries of all kinds are bought in the greatest profusion.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Druids' New Year.

The Druids, a very interesting and an entirely patriotic body of Celtic priests, distributed branches of the mistletoe—these they accounted sacred—as New Year gifts to their adherents and made the day memorable by many ceremonies. They ranked it as one of the most important days of the year, a day auspicious for all new enterprises because sure of the favor of the gods.—Selected.

Tasks Must Be Finished.

Whatever you start to do on New Year's day you must finish, or else you will half do all the year. It is also a custom to light a candle at sundown on the 31st of December and keep it burning until the new year is fairly started. It is a very ill omen to have a fire go out with the old year. The finding of money is good if the money is spent for another than the person finding it.—Selected.

Jewish New Year.

The ancient Jewish year began on March 25, and, owing to the fact that many, if not most, of the early Christians were of Jewish origin and thus gave tone to early Christianity, the Jewish year was long retained among Christian converts, and many of the writings of the early fathers were dated according to the Jewish division of time.—St. Louis-Globe-Democrat.

Begging For Drink.

Farm laborers in England until recent times carried around empty punch bowls on New Year's day to the houses of the gentry and nobility as a hint that they would like the wherewithal to fill them. Gratuities of money were expected and generally given.—Selected.

New Year's Pins.

In 1543, after the introduction of metal pins as an article of feminine use, they became popular as New Year's presents. They were very expensive, and for a gentleman to make his lady friends a present of four or five pins was considered a very happy thought.

Block Island.

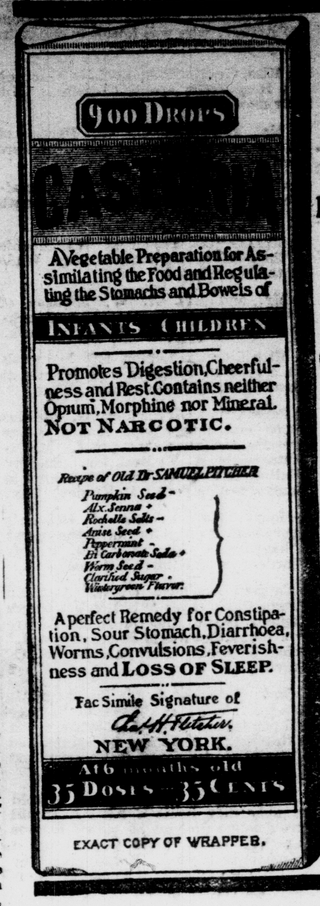
The hum of the spinning wheel is still a familiar sound on Block island, a quaint and interesting resort in summer and a miniature world in winter, in which the habits and customs are those of 150 years ago. The island is 15 miles off the Rhode Island shore and almost directly south of stormy Point Judith.

There are times during the winter when the wind sweeps across the treeless land at a velocity of 84 miles an hour, and women take their lives in their hands when they venture out of doors. The isolation of the island is almost complete.

John Schofield established the first woolen mill in Connecticut near Oakdale, where the carding was done by power cards. In 1798 the Block islanders began to send wool to the mill to be carded into rolls, and generation after generation have kept up the practice. Formerly many bags of grain accompanied the wool, and grist and woolen mills were kept running day and night, while the fishermen and farmers enjoyed themselves in the quiet Connecticut village until the work was done.—New York Herald.

Hard on Mothers-in-law.

In the islands of New Britain a man must not speak to his mother-in-law. Not only is speech forbidden to this relative, but she must be avoided, and if by any chance the lady is met the son-in-law must hide himself or cover his face. Suicide of both parties is the outcome if the rule is broken. One of the English missionaries tried to get the natives' ideas of an oath, and he found the most solemn asseveration among them was, "If I am not telling the truth, I hope I may touch the hand of my mother-in-law."—Pearson's Magazine.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Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral.
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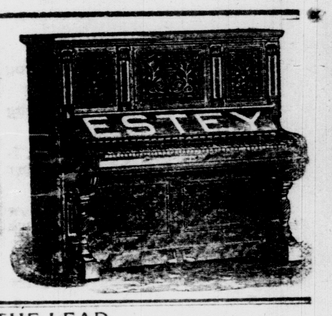

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Statement Dec. 31st. 1895.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

RICHARD A. McCURDY, PRESIDENT.

Assets	$221,213,721.33
Liabilities	194,347,157.58
Surplus	$26,866,563.75
Total Income	$48,597,430.51
Total paid policy-holders in 1895	$23,126,728.45
Insurance and annuities in force	899,074,453.78
Net gain in 1895	$61,647,645.36

Statement of the Texas Business

INSURANCE IN FORCE.

	Dec. 31, 1894.	Dec. 31, 1895.		
Mutual Life	24,581,452	28,546,932	Gain	$3,965,480
N. Y. Life	26,768,971	24,555,317	Loss	2,213,654
Equitable	22,787,877	20,535,948	Loss	2,251,929

NEW BUSINESS.

	1894.	1895.		
Mutual Life	$3,433,196	$8,074,960	GAIN	$4,641,764
N. Y. Life	9,330,889	6,877,593	LOSS	2,453,296
Equitable	2,274,813	1,856,829	Loss	417,984
Paid to Policy-holders in Texas in 1895				$206,203.80
Paid to the state for Taxes				12,011.20

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As a Policy-holder you want to be in the Company that is the largest and safest. As an Agent you want to be in the Company that gets the business

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